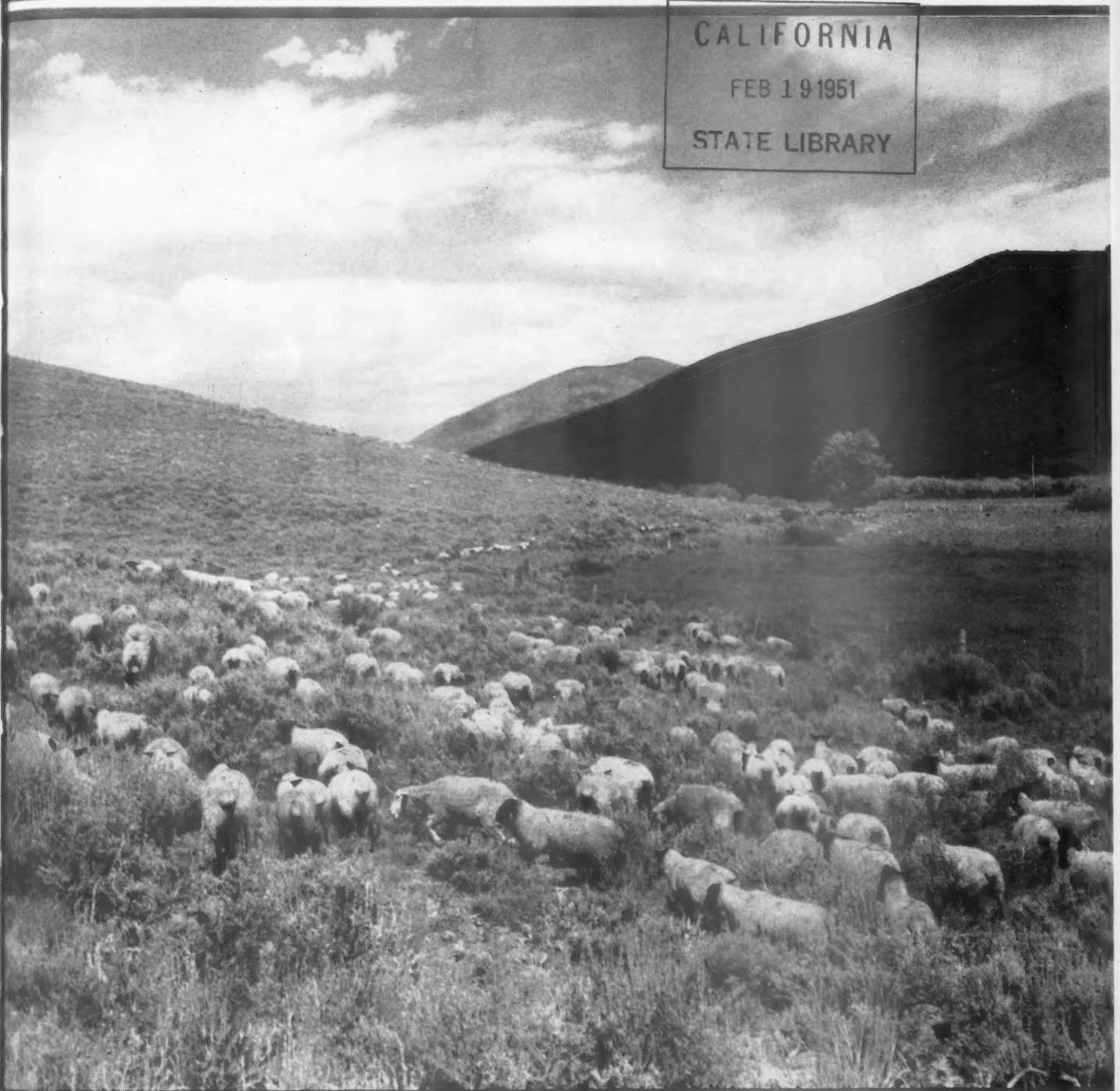


THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

Volume XLI

FEBRUARY, 1951

Number 2



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FARM GRAIN STOCKS TOTAL OVER 3 BILLION BUSHEL

As of January 1, 1951, Crop Reporting Board estimated that the farm holdings of 6 leading grains amounted to 3,648,650,000 bushels, compared to 3,795,800,000 bushels as of the same date in 1950.

Corn stocks at 2.1 billion bushels were 245 million less than the near-record of 2.4 billion on farms a year ago. Current stocks as the year opened were 76 percent of the 1950 production, which is exactly the average rate. Extra heavy feeding was reported for the October-December period, which checks with the decision not to use 1951 corn allotments.

Wheat stocks of 335.6 million bushels were above last year, oats stocks of 908 million bushels were 84 million bushels above those a year ago, barley stocks were 139 million bushels, or 33 million better than a year ago, rye stocks at 7.2 million bushels were one-half larger than a year ago, and soybean stocks were 97.7 million bushels—highest on record.

—U.S.D.A. Release

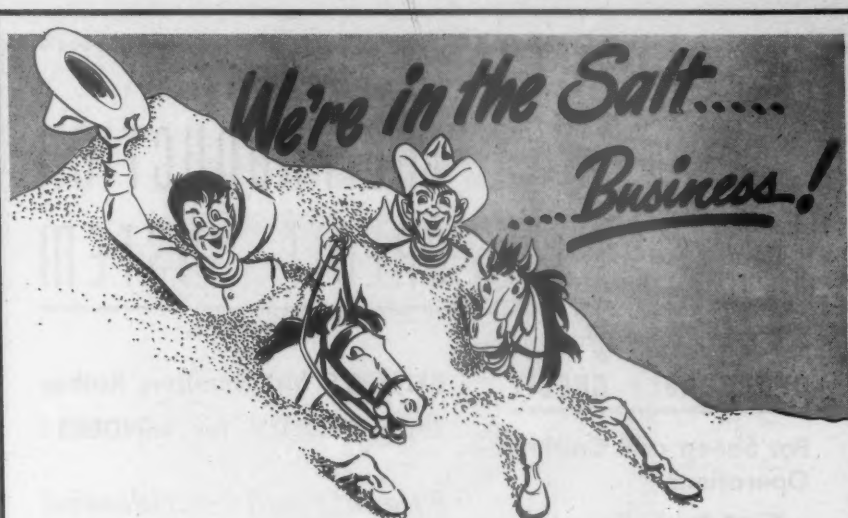
ANTIBIOTIC AVALANCHE

In a recent issue of Journal of Heredity, G. B. Wilson, botany department of Michigan State College, raises a question touched off by his own exploratory studies in the field of antibiotics and genetics:

"During recent years it has become the fashion to spray, dust or inject the living world with a disconcerting array of living organic chemicals, some synthetic and some themselves the metabolic products of living organisms. The purpose behind this unprecedented assault is the control of pests.

"The criterion which determines whether or not a given chemical may be used is relatively simple—if it kills or seriously damages the pest without killing or obviously damaging the host or other economic organisms with which it may come into contact, it is considered suitable, if cost is not excessive.

"As far as it goes, this seems to be adequate. However, the possibility remains that any of these substances may have genetical effects, even at concentrations



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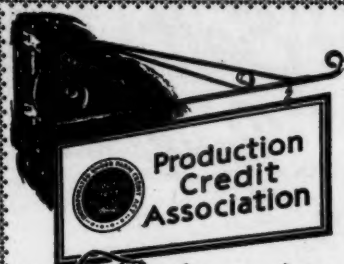
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below the harmful level." (Constant care to check such plant heredity factors which may or may not be affected by antibiotic applications seems, in the light of such caution, to be advisable.)

—U.S.D.A. Release

P.I. LAMB SHOW

Lamb producers, livestock marketing agencies and packers are expecting more than 1000 lambs to be entered in the Second Annual Pacific International Lamb Show and Sale to be held in North Portland, May 22nd.

The show, originated by the Oregon Purebred Sheep Breeders' Association, will be classified in pens of 5, 10, 25 and 50 lambs, all breeds competing with each other. There will be cash awards amounting to more than \$600.00 and special trophies, with entries open to anyone, anywhere. Entries close May 19th.

In addition to lamb producers of the Northwest other active interests include the Portland Union Stockyards, Pacific International Livestock Exposition, commission firms and packer interests operating at North Portland.

CONSERVATION PRACTICES STRENGTHEN DEFENSE PRODUCTION

The Nation's defense production has been substantially strengthened by the soil and water conservation practices carried out on nearly 3 million farms by farmers cooperating in the 1950 Agricultural Conservation Program, according to Ralph S. Trigg, administrator of the Production and Marketing Administration. Since 1936, farmers cooperating in the Agricultural Conservation Program have seeded 51 million acres of pasture; constructed a million dams; applied 260 million tons of lime and 24 million tons of superphosphate; established and plowed under 255 million acres of green manure crops; constructed 950 thousand miles of terraces; farmed 130 million acres of land on the contour; field stripped 70 million acres of cropland; and planted 825 thousand acres of trees.

During 1950, farmers cooperating in the ACP have been encouraged to improve pastures and rangeland as a means of building up plant food reserves in the soil. In making crop adjustments to comply with acreage allotments, farmers were urged to seed the land taken out of allotment crops to grass and legumes.

—P.M.A. Release

The National Wool Grower

"FLYING VET." SERVICE IN AUSTRALIA

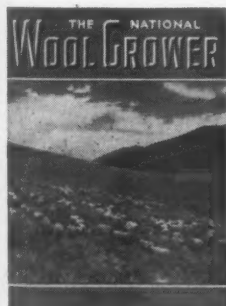
The first "flying vet." service in the world is expected to be operating over 18 million acres of the Western Division of New South Wales, Australia, early in 1951. Eventually it will be available for the 5,500,000 sheep and 45,000 cattle pastured in the area.

Using air-taxi services and emergency airfields, the flying veterinarians will operate first from the town of Bourke and later from Broken Hill. The annual cost of the service, which is being sponsored by the N. S. W. Department of Agriculture, is expected to be about £4,000, (\$8,960) which will be derived from a levy on graziers.

Although nearly 100 students are in their final year of Veterinary Science at Sydney University, war and the aftermath of war have reduced the number of Australia's veterinary students by half. The Western Division has only three stock inspectors to handle veterinary work—hence the flying service.

HIDE PRICE ROLLBACK

PRICES of cattle hides and calf skins were rolled back to November levels by the Economic Stabilization Agency in its second mandatory order which became effective January 29th. The first order fixed automobile prices at the December 1st level until March 1st. The hide price regulation is temporary; a "tailored" regulation will come later, the ESA says. The rollback amounted to more than 15 percent and was made in an attempt to prevent serious increases in the prices of shoes, etc.



THE COVER

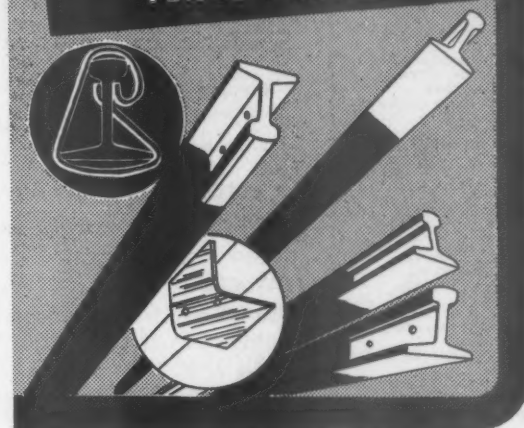
Assistant Secretary E. E. Marsh took our cover picture of contented Suffolk and Panama flocks of Laidlaw & Sons, Inc., up in the Muldoon, Idaho country last June.

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help."

—PSALM 121-1

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CONTENTS .. THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

Volume XLI

FEBRUARY, 1951

Number 2

414 PACIFIC NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING, SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

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J. M. JONES

EDITORS

IRENE YOUNG

FEATURED

The Sheep Industry and the OPA—
Will ESA Make the Same Blunder?

By J. M. Jones 5

General Ceiling Price Regulation.... 6

Our Job—To Fight Inflation..... 10

Policy on 1080 Poisoning Campaign

By Dorr D. Green 19

Australian Merinos Arrive in U.S.A... 23

Halogeton Poisoning in Sheep

By L. R. Vawter 24

PUBLIC LAND MATTERS

F.S. Decision on Grand Mesa

Grazing Confirmed 9

F.S. Fees Announced for 1951..... 9

Advisory Council's Trespass Report.. 9

A Suggestion for Basic Land Man-

agement—By Vernon Metcalf 12

Public Land Grazing — What the

Stockmen Want

By F. R. Carpenter 21

PERTAINING TO LAMB

New Lamb Grades Proposed 5

Lamb Dish of the Month 15

Lamb Marketing in January 32

WOOL AFFAIRS

The 1951 Wool Support Program.... 14

Wool Support Program in Review.... 14

The West as a Wool Textile Center.. 22

"Cloud-Light" Wool Promotion 22

January's Booming Wool Market 29

Champion Fleece at International.... 29

The Australian Wool Market

By Senator J. F. Guthrie..... 30

Australian Growers Fear Market

Crash 31

TAXES

Favorable Court Decision in Capital
Gains Issue—By Stephen H. Hart
and W. D. Embree, Jr. 8

MISCELLANEOUS

Freight Rate Case 5

Mohair Grade Standards 7

Cattlemen's Convention 15

Utah's Outstanding Convention 16

National Western Sheep Honors..... 20

Hampshire Meeting 20

Views of Government Agencies on

Halogeton Problem 25

Merino Breeders Meet 28

Winter in Idaho—By S. W. McClure 39

Shearing Schools 39

REGULAR DEPARTMENTS

The Cutting Chute 1

Sheepmen's Calendar 10

State Presidents' Round Table 18

This Month's Quiz 26

Around the Range Country 34

The Auxiliaries 40

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—Payment of dues in the National Wool Growers Association includes a year's subscription to the National Wool Grower. Dues and subscriptions are received along with state association dues by the secretaries shown for the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. To non-members \$5.00 per year. Entered as Second Class Matter, January, 1913, at the Post Office at Salt Lake City, Utah, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103. Act of October 8, 1917, authorized August 23, 1918.

The Sheep Industry and the O.P.A.... will the E.S.A. Make the Same Blunder?

THE domestic sheep industry again looks with apprehension as the dark clouds of Government control and regulation threaten its very existence, if operated as under O.P.A. There is little wonder for this alarm when we see gathering in Washington, D.C., the same faces (and same names) that under O.P.A. dealt the industry one of the severest blows it has ever received, from which only now it is beginning to recover. The names and faces of the titular heads have changed; the name of the agency in charge is now called the Economic Stabilization Administration; but the power to deal the industry a death blow is the same.

The only hope for the industry is that the men who are returning to take over again have gained in experience and knowledge and that they recognize the all-important concern in times such as these is increased production.

The primary result of O.P.A.'s action was one of the causes for the greatest liquidation in the domestic sheep industry in the Nation's history, but before presenting the facts which are all a matter of record, let us take a chapter from the Third Report of the Preparedness Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services of the United States Senate submitted by Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Chairman, Preparedness Subcommittee—Subject: Wool. (The italics are ours.)

"For some time, Congress has been aware that our wool stockpiling program has not been all that it should be. . . . This subcommittee has looked into the situation regarding wool and we are distressed by what we find. . . . Apparently the Munitions Board—at whom the finger of responsibility clearly points—has chosen to ignore not only the hard earned lessons of World War I but of World War II also. In both wars we were short of adequate wool supplies. . . .

"The simple and disturbing fact is that there is no wool in the strategic materials stockpile. . . . The United States is presently producing only about one fourth of the wool it consumes annually. . . .

"Clearly this means we must depend largely upon foreign wool for our domestic needs. Foreign wool is not ours merely for the asking; we have to buy it on the open market, and, needless to say, other nations—including nations behind the iron curtain—

are bidding for the available supply. Because of this situation, the United States is going to have to pay much more now. . . . Obviously, this cost must be considered as part of the price of the Munitions Board's wool folly.

"How we got into this predicament is an incredible and disheartening story. . . . Within the Military Establishment itself,

NEW LAMB GRADES PROPOSED

A proposal has been presented to the various segments of the sheep industry for the proper grading of lamb in line with that for beef which is now in effect. The National Association has expressed its position on the new grades to the Livestock Branch of the Department of Agriculture.

recommendations on several separate, distinct occasions, the first in 1947 and as recently as April 13, 1950, have been made to the Munitions Board, urging stockpiling of wool. . . . (Wool Grower, September, 1950, page 5.)

"The total lack of understanding of the problems involved and complete lack of knowledge of the wool production and industry in this country are so evident that it is a waste of time to comment further on these statements of the Munitions Board. . . . It showed, we believe, an abysmal lack of foresight where it stood by and watched the Government's stock of wool become dis-

FREIGHT RATE CASE

The Interstate Commerce Commission has assigned the railroads' request for a 6 percent increase in freight rates for a hearing in Washington, D. C., on February 19, 1951. Charles E. Blaine, commerce specialist for the National Wool Growers Association and the American National Cattlemen's Association, has filed a protest against the increase with the Commission and will make the necessary arrangements with that body for members of the industry to testify at later hearings.

sipated."

Such is the report of the Senate Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services. The same report can be made of the O.P.A. as its dictatorial and unrelenting attitude occasioned to a great degree the liquidation of the breeding stock of the domestic sheep industry, which in a large measure places us in the precarious position on wool to which the Senate Subcommittee refers. What is true of wool is equally as true of lamb meat because the supply of meat in relation to demand is also short.

Let us look at the situation within the sheep industry since 1942 (prices of wool were frozen as of December 9, 1941) and then take up the part O.P.A. (price control and regulations) played in bringing about this condition.

On January 1, 1942, according to the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, there were 49,346,000 head of stock sheep in the United States and the number has decreased every year up to the present, with the greatest reductions occurring in the years between January 1, 1943 and January 1, 1947 when the reduction exceeded 4 million head per year. In 1950 the B.A.E. reported 27,064,000 head of stock or a reduction of 22,282,000 or 45 percent from 1942 numbers. Wool production decreased from 455,000,000 pounds in 1942 to 258,600,000 pounds in 1949.

Federally inspected slaughter of sheep and lambs went from a high of 27,073,000 in 1943 to a low of 13,872,000 in 1949.

Two of the important reasons given by sheep growers in 1948 to the Department of Agriculture for reduction of sheep numbers between 1943 and 1948 were: (1) Low returns from sheep operations compared with returns from other livestock and cash crops; (2) Scarcity of all hired help and high wages.

Both of these reasons are directly attributable to price control and Government regulations of the sheep industry. The price of wool was frozen on December 9, 1941, two days "after Pearl Harbor" and was not changed during the entire war period, while many items entering into the cost of living and production were permitted to increase materially.

Ceiling prices were placed on lamb as of August 1, 1942, and were not permitted to rise; prices were rolled back as of June 21, 1943 and subsidies paid to the processors.

On October 1, 1943 we were in a sad state of affairs. The blame was placed on the then present slaughter quotas which were only part of the problem. Ration points hindered movement of lamb. On October 20, the O.P.A. admitted "the labor shortage is one of those other factors (causing liquidation). Price ceilings may be another." However, the O.P.A. was not willing to remedy the situation.

The industry continually pleaded for relief from ration points on lamb. In August, 1944, efforts were made to no avail, while fish, veal and poultry were free from rationing. Discrimination was continued against the industry and never was a realistic approach taken by O.P.A.

Growers, after giving up on ever getting

relief from low ceiling prices, accepted a direct subsidy on sheep and lambs effective August 5, 1945; this after stock sheep numbers had been reduced approximately 10 million head.

Twenty-three of the most important agricultural commodities increased 146.9 percent from September 15, 1941 to January 15, 1948; lamb increased 125.6 percent; and wool increased only 12.1 percent. Corn, for example, increased 247.4 percent for the same period; wheat 193.3 percent; and oats 218.3 percent. And this isn't all, the average of the index of farm wages increased from 165 to 408 for the same period, or 147.3 percent. The sheep industry pays the highest wages of all agricultural producers, and labor represents, on

the average, between 30 and 35 percent of the total cost of the production of wool and lambs.

Is it any wonder the sheep industry is concerned again over the inauguration of dictatorial controls of the industry? The American people should also be concerned because not only will production be decreased, but black markets, rationing, and long waiting lines will again come to the fore.

"The most effective means to avoid price increases are (a) increased production and (b) proper employment of purchasing power through sound monetary and fiscal policies. Price regulations attempt to cure the symptoms not the disease."

—J. M. (Casey) Jones

General Ceiling Price Regulation Raw Wool and Live Animals Among Exemptions

Rufus F. Hale, assistant treasurer of Pacific Mills, Boston, has been selected as consultant to the Economic Stabilization Agency on wool matters.

AFTER several headline flashes of "imminent controls," the Economic Stabilization Agency finally took the bull by the horns and issued a general ceiling price regulation on January 26, 1951, to be effective immediately. With the experience of controls during the last war still fresh in everybody's minds, it is no wonder, of course, that this undertaking was approached again with some reluctance apparently. Since controls have been deemed necessary in the defense program, the general hope is that through some miracle they may be administered in a better manner and do less serious damage to industry. That, of course, remains to be seen.

At present ceiling prices are established on all commodities or services, except for certain exemptions, at the highest price prevailing between December 19, 1950 and January 25, 1951 inclusive. That is fixed as the base period. The regulation covers manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers together with suppliers of services, and the ceiling price for sale of a commodity or service is the highest price at which they "delivered it during the base period to a purchaser of the same class." If the commodity or service was not delivered during the base period, the ceiling price is the highest at which the commodity or service was offered for delivery in the base period to a purchaser of the same class. This offer must have been a written

offer or, in the case of a retailer, it may have been made by display.

A number of raw and unprocessed agricultural commodities when sold by the producer are exempt for two reasons:

1. The agency considered the technique of the freeze order "administratively impracticable" to apply to sales by individual farmers at the present time.
2. Current prices on some agricultural commodities are below the minimum set in the Defense Production Act; namely, parity or the highest price received between May 24 and June 24, 1950.

The list of agricultural commodities which are exempted include:

1. Any raw and unprocessed agricultural commodity when sold by the producer of that commodity.
2. Any commodity grown and processed on the farm when sold by the farmer if the total of such sales and deliveries

does not exceed \$200 in any one calendar month.

3. Raw wool when sold by the producer of that commodity.
4. Cotton when sold by the producer of that commodity.
5. American-Egyptian cotton.
6. All live animals.
7. All fresh fruits and vegetables and tree nuts.
8. Fresh fish and seafood and game.
9. Seeds including hay, pasture, legume and covercrop seeds and other seeds.
10. Crude pine gum.

Also exempt are quite a lot of oilseeds and nuts, so long as they retain their identity in normal trade.

In the "Statement of Consideration for the General Price Ceiling Regulation," which is made part of the order itself occurs this paragraph:

"Although the prices of live animals are generally above the minimum standards of the Act (Defense Production), it is the judgment of the Director of Price Stabilization that control can be more adequately effected at this time at the processing level. Tailored livestock ceilings will be issued as soon as practicable."

Taken at face value, this implies that ceilings on live animals will come. The ceiling, of course, applies at present to meat of all kinds. It has been our understanding that pork would be exempted because hogs were selling below parity at least on December 29th. It is not so stated in the regulation. It may be that hogs had reached parity by January 25th. If they

ECONOMIC STABILIZATION OFFICIALS

**Charles E. Wilson, Director of
Defense Mobilization.**

**William H. Harrison, Adminis-
trator, National Defense Produc-
tion.**

**Eric Johnston, Administrator,
Economic Stabilization Agency.**

**Michael V. DiSalle, Director of
Price Stabilization.**

**Cyrus S. Ching, Chairman,
Wage Stabilization Board.**

were still selling below parity under the Defense Production Act, of course, pork would be exempted. The livestock products listed in the regulation as being exempt because they are selling below minimum price requirements are: butterfat, chickens, eggs, milk, and turkeys.

As prices rise on products exempt because their prices were below the "legal minima" when the regulation went into effect, processors are permitted to increase their ceiling prices by the dollars and cents difference between the highest price paid by them for the commodity during the base period and the most recent purchase cost.

No reason is given for the exemption of wool, which is selling considerably above parity at the present time. Undoubtedly it is tied in with the world wool and political situations. In fact, the political background is indicated in the special provision for importers with existing purchase commitments. Under it importers are permitted to re-sell an imported commodity at the ceiling price plus the actual dollars and cents difference between that price and the current landed cost for the commodity. However, a contract for its delivery must have been dated on or before January 26th. "The purpose of that provision," the General Statement says, "is to avoid interruption in the flow of essential imported commodities and the consequent reduction of supplies available for the defense program, as well as to avoid the damage to our relations with friendly nations that would result if importers canceled bona fide contracts. Once deliveries of existing contracts have been disposed of the importer's ceiling price reverts to the base level."

Another influencing factor in connection with wool is that one of the basic requirements of the Defense Production Act is that, in controlling prices, due consideration must be given "to the national effort to achieve maximum production in furtherance of the objectives of this Act."

Complications have already arisen in the wool manufacturing business. Arthur Besse, president of the National Association of Wool Manufacturers, is reported as having notified Michael V. DiSalle, Director of Price Stabilization, that the wool textile industry cannot operate under the price ruling—for the reason that the goods delivered or offered during the base period were priced largely on the basis of raw wool costs in the middle of 1950 and now raw wool prices have doubled in the world's market. He pointed out the difficulty of applying the price regulation to goods which have to be priced and manufactured three to six months prior to their

deliveries.

Wool trade officials are also asking for an interpretation of the regulation as it may apply to them, and as you know, the New York Wool Exchange halted its operations on January 29th.

Adjustments in the regulation will undoubtedly have to be made. In fact, the ESA itself says that no provision has been made for individual hardship cases. There will be amendments and supplementary regulations.

The wage stabilization regulation, tied in with that on price ceilings, says that no employee shall receive wages or salaries or other compensation above that received by him on January 25, 1951, without prior approval or authorization by the Wage Stabilization Board; new employees cannot be paid higher wages than those in effect on January 25th for the position for which they are hired. Under the Defense Production Act wages cannot be stabilized below those prevailing for any position between May 24 and June 24, 1950.

As with the price regulation, the wage stabilization order "may be modified, amended or superseded by orders or regulations hereafter issued by the Wage Stabilization Board." In this connection the Board approved on January 31st increases in the wages for coal miners which had been negotiated prior to January 25th.

Hints of Rationing

Recognizing the impossibility of issuing one regulation to "cover millions of prices and ceilings and thousands of industries," the Director of Price Stabilization said he intend to issue "as soon as, practicable and after appropriate consultation, additional price ceiling regulations, some general in scope and some tailored to meet the separate problems of individual industries." It is believed that this general freeze order will only be effective for a short time. When orders are issued covering specific commodities or industries, the idea is being advanced that controls will be "fluid" and cover "margins of profit" as goods move from producer to consumer; also that wages will be under similar flexible ceiling control.

"The fact that prices have been frozen by this regulation should not be interpreted as ending the danger of inflation," according to the "General Statement." "This would be to confuse controlling the symptoms of a disease with its cure. The effect of price control is not to eliminate inflation, but to suppress it. Inflation comes about as a result of a gap between the

available supply of goods and the amounts which consumers, business firms and government would like to buy and can pay for. Price control does not eliminate this gap although it will remove a major factor causing the gap to widen by halting the price-wage spiral. It is the job of other measures to narrow this gap and thus to reduce the degree of inflationary pressure. Major reliance must be placed upon vigorous taxation and strong credit policy. To the extent that we succeed in reducing the inflationary pressure by these means, we make the task of price control that much easier, and reduce the dislocations that even a suppressed inflation inevitably engenders.

"Price control not only must be backed by strong fiscal and credit measures but it is equally important that it be integrated with a vigorous use of production and distribution controls."

In the meantime, J. B. Wilson who is watching the situation closely in Washington, reports that industry representatives are "standing in line" to present their problems to the Economic Stabilization Agency. The National Wool Growers Association has asked for an opportunity to meet with the agencies concerned with price stabilization and outline the views of the industry should ceiling prices for our products be under consideration.

Mohair Grade Standards

THE Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, is considering the adoption of U. S. standards for grades of mohair and inviting comments from interested persons on the proposed classifications. Comments will be received up to June 20, 1951.

Seven grades are included in the proposed standards (the first ever developed by the USDA for mohair) 49's, 36's, 32's, 28's, 24's, 20's, and 16's. These grades have been set up in two series, one for spring mohair and the other for fall shorn. A few mohair samples in each of these sets of grades in both series are available for purchase as long as they last.

Comments on the proposed grades should be submitted to the Director, Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. Mohair grade sets may be purchased f.o.b. Washington, D.C., from this source at \$20 a set.

Favorable Court Decision in Capital Gains Issue

By STEPHEN H. HART, Attorney for National Live Stock Tax Committee, and W. D. EMBREE JR.

ON January 8, 1951, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, sitting in Fort Worth, Texas, ruled by unanimous vote that stockmen are entitled to capital gains on income received from animals culled regularly each year from their breeding herds. This was the decision in the consolidated cases involving the Bennetts, the Finches, Daisey Birkbeck and the Ritchies. This decision followed the decision in the now famous *Albright* case decided by the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Now, all of the cases on this issue which have been litigated have been decided in favor of the taxpayer. The roster shows the taxpayer triumphant in two United States Court of Appeals cases and five United States Tax Court cases.

As stated above, the issue involved in these cases was this: Is a stockman entitled to take capital gains on the sale of animals culled regularly each year from his breeding herd? Our readers will recall that under the Internal Revenue Bureau rulings which apply section 117(j) to the livestock industry, the Bureau held that animals, such as cows and ewes, which were being used by a stockman for breeding purposes were, in effect, capital assets as distinguished from other animals in a herd, such as steer calves, and wether lambs, which were held by a stockman primarily for sale. The same distinction was drawn by the ruling with respect to producers of registered stock, between the breeder's own herd and the animals raised by him for sale to others. In other words, breeding herd animals were treated as the factory, and slaughter or other animals held for sale as the product. Accordingly, income from the sale of a breeding herd animal is entitled to capital gains treatment and only half of such income is taxable, whereas income from the sale of the product is ordinary income and taxable in full. This much of the ruling followed the usual law of taxation as to capital assets versus stock-in-trade items, but the Bureau went further and stated that animals culled regularly each year from the breeding herd were not to be treated as capital assets when they were sold because the Bureau contended that culls, like steer calves, were really held primarily for sale as slaughter animals.

Thus, in effect, the Bureau held that although a cow, while it was being used for

breeding purposes, was a capital asset, when she was culled from the breeding herd, she suddenly ceased to be a capital asset and dropped into the category of a steer calf. Therefore, on normal sales of culls, a stockman was prohibited from taking capital gains. Under the Bureau ruling, he could take capital gains on breeding herd animals only if sales from the breeding herd decreased the size of the breeding herd. Thus, if Rancher Smith culled and sold ten cows and replaced them with ten heifers, he was not entitled to capital gains on the sale of the ten cows. If, however, he sold fifteen culled cows and replaced them with only ten heifers, he would be entitled to capital gains on five of the culled cows.

This ruling was a great advantage to stockmen who were forced to sell-down or sell-out their breeding herds, but it was of no advantage in so far as capital gains were concerned, to the stockman who was holding his herd at a constant size or increasing it.

Taxpayer *Albright* decided to take the matter to court to see if he could not get a judicial declaration to the effect that the Commissioner's ruling, in so far as culls were concerned, was improper. The United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit agreed with Taxpayer *Albright* and held that once an animal had become a part of the breeding herd, and thus a capital asset, such animal continued to be a capital asset whether it was a cull or not. Stated otherwise, the Court held that sales of any animals which had once been used in the breeding herd were entitled to capital gains treatment regardless of whether or not such sales decreased the size of the breeding herd.

The United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, in agreeing with the *Albright* decision, directed its attention particularly to the Government's argument that culls were held "primarily for sale" and said that it thought "such a severely narrow and restricted point of view wholly unreasonable, impractical and unsound;" that the facts showed clearly that breeding herd cattle were held primarily for breeding purposes and not primarily for sale. It stated:

"If the statute had been intended to mean what the collector contends for, the word 'primarily' would not have

been in it. Since 'primarily' is in the statute, it seems clear to us that to hold, as the collector contends, that the main, the first, purpose of the keeping of these breeder cattle was for sale, does complete violence to the statute and to its purpose and intent."

The Fifth Circuit case is a blow to the Treasury Department in as much as the Treasury had hoped to obtain an opinion in this Circuit which would conflict with the *Albright* case in the Eighth Circuit, thereby enabling the Government to appeal the question to the United States Supreme Court for final determination. Up to now the Treasury has been refusing to acquiesce in the *Albright* decision and has in all cases, except those arising in the Eighth Circuit, been requiring the taxpayer to litigate any claims which he made on the basis of the *Albright* case. The National Live Stock Tax Committee has, since the ruling in the *Albright* case, been trying to get the Treasury to acquiesce in that case. At the last session of Congress, the Committee and its supporters defeated the Treasury's attempt to pass legislation specifically denying the stockman the advantages given to him by the *Albright* case, and succeeded in getting into the record a statement by the Conference Committee expressing the hope that pending study and further legislation, the Treasury would follow the decision in the *Albright* case.

Now that the stockman has decisions in his favor by two Circuits which cover important ranch and farming territory in the United States, it is entirely possible that the Treasury will acquiesce in these decisions and cease litigation on this issue. The National Live Stock Tax Committee is continuing its efforts to get Treasury acquiescence and has prepared legislation which has been presented to key men in the Congress for enactment at the earliest possible time. This legislation specifically confirms to the stockman the benefits to which he is entitled under the Fifth and Eighth Circuit Court decisions. In view of these decisions, stockmen are justified in claiming (though the Government may still deny them) capital gains on income received from the sale of culls in their current returns, and also are justified in filing claims for refund on their returns as far back as the year 1947 in the event that the circumstance and amount of money involved justify such action.

F.S. Decision on Grand Mesa Grazing Confirmed

LYLE F. Watts, chief of the Forest Service, announced January 10, 1951 that the Secretary of Agriculture had confirmed the decision of the Forest Service to reduce livestock grazing on certain portions of the Grand Mesa National Forest of Colorado.

The grazing lands affected are situated east of Grand Junction, Colorado, and are known as the Point, Green Mountain and Milk Creek Allotments. Last year, when the Forest Service notified permittees that forage conditions were unsatisfactory and required a reduction in livestock numbers on these allotments, the Grand Mesa Stock-growers Association appealed the decision to Secretary Brannan.

At the request of the appellants, the Secretary asked the National Forest Advisory Board of Appeals, a group appointed by him to advise him on such disagreements, to make a thorough study of the case. Two members of the board, John A. Goe of the Livestock Branch of the Production and Marketing Administration, and Edward G. Grest of the Soil Conservation Service, visited the areas last October. Their purpose was to become acquainted on the ground with the methods and standards used by the Forest Service in judging range conditions.

They were accompanied by three representatives of the appellants, members of the Forest Service and by two technical range men having no administrative relation to the case. The technical advisors were Raymond Price, director of the Southwestern Forest and Range Experiment Station, Tucson, Arizona, and Waldo R. Frandsen, Range Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Portland, Oregon.

In issuing his decision, the Secretary stated that the findings of the board members and the two independent range technicians indicate that a reduction in grazing use is needed as a step in rebuilding the range. "The chief interest of the stockmen and the Forest Service," he said, "is to retain the grazing resources on these three allotments in a productive condition and to increase their forage yield."

The Secretary also pointed out that a number of other range restorative measures are needed on the ranges. He recommended such practices as rotation-deferred grazing, range riding to eliminate concentration of livestock, improved salt distribution, range seeding and brush control.

Forest Service officials stated that the range-improvement practices suggested by Secretary Brannan would be put into effect

as rapidly as is feasible. Forest Service range administrators will meet with stockmen users and work out a management plan for improving and obtaining better use of forage on the three allotments.

—U.S.D.A. Release

F.S. Fees Announced For 1951

THE average forest grazing fee per head of sheep per month in 1951 will be 12.25 cents; that for cattle, 51 cents, according to information sent out by W. L. Dutton, chief, Division of Range Management, U. S. Forest Service, on January 12, 1951.

Average fees last year were 10.25 cents for sheep and 42 cents for cattle.

Forest grazing fees are based on the relationship between average market prices received by farmers in the Western States during 1950 and those of the 1931 base period. Last year the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, USDA, figured the average price of lambs per hundred pounds as \$24.80, which is 271 percent of the base price of \$9.15; so the average fee is 271 percent of the base fee of 4.5 cents, or 12.195 cents. Rounded off to the nearest quarter cent makes the fee 12.25 cents.

The average market price of beef cattle, exclusive of calves, during 1950 in the Western States was \$23.10, the B.A.E. states. That price is 349 percent of the base market price of \$6.62. Therefore, the average grazing fee is 349 percent of the base fee of 14.5 cents or 50.6, which rounded off to the nearest cent is 51 cents.

Local fees are computed in accordance with regulations set up by the Forest Service.

The following table gives the average prices* per hundred pounds received by farmers in the Western States in 1950:

State	Beef Cattle Excluding Calves	Lambs
Montana	\$22.60	\$23.50
Idaho	22.90	24.50
Wyoming	23.70	25.30
Colorado	24.90	25.90
New Mexico	23.40	24.20
Arizona	23.10	24.70
Utah	22.80	24.80
Nevada	23.50	24.50
Washington	22.20	23.20
Oregon	21.50	23.10
California	22.50	25.40
Western States	\$23.10	\$24.80

*Preliminary

Advisory Council's Trespass Report

THE decision of the Forest Service not to withhold permits to graze livestock on national forests while a trespass case is in course of appeal, until its new manual is issued, was announced in the December Wool Grower, (page 8).

This procedure was recommended by the National Forest Advisory Council* in its report on the subject of trespass, dated December 6, 1950 and just received in the National Association office (January 29, 1951).

Based on testimonies given by permittees at a hearing held by the Council in Denver, Colorado, in January, 1950, the report states in part:

"The Forest Service policy provides that the Service will, in addition to invoking appropriate legal remedies, exercise a reasonable administrative discretion for enforcing collection of actual damages amounting to \$50 or less. In cases where the sum demanded does not exceed actual damages, and the regional law officer is of the opinion that a trespass is clearly established, the Regional Forester may authorize the withholding of grazing privileges to the trespasser until payment is received. Many of the stockmen feel that this provision is unfair, since the threat not to renew the grazing privilege is held over the head of the alleged trespasser to force him to make payment promptly while the question of trespass is still in dispute. In other words, he can hardly refuse to pay the assessment pending settlement of the case through regular channels, because his grazing privileges for continuing his operations may be refused."

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"The National Forest Advisory Council feels that stockmen have a just complaint on this point and that the Forest Service should not hold up permits while trespass cases are in appeal status. There is also evidence (introduced in the record at the January hearing) to indicate that the Washington office of the Forest Service feels likewise. On January 21, 1949, that office sent out circular letter G-333, with copies to the two national livestock associations suggesting certain changes in both the Grazing and Trespass Sections of the Forest Service manual. The essence of these suggested changes would require the field officers of the Forest Service to avoid action

* Members: Dr. Jonathan Forman, Columbus, Ohio; Prof. Gilmour E. MacDonald, formerly head of the Department of Forestry, Iowa State College, Ames; and Dr. Roland Rennie, president of Montana State College, Bozeman.

which would unjustly interfere with an appellant's right of appeal as contemplated by long-standing policy. Specifically, and applying to the permit-withholding procedure discussed above, it was proposed that in cases where the assessed damage action is in recognized appeal status, the withholding procedure will not be invoked until after final decision on the appeal.

"The Council feels that if the policies proposed in circular 333 had been in effect in 1948 and 1949 much of the complaint about handling the Uncompahgre trespass cases would have been avoided. Permits to the alleged trespassers would not have been withheld and the stockmen would have had no grounds for charging local forest officers with arbitrary action in enforcing collection of assessed damages prior to final decision on the appeals. The Council therefore recommends that the Forest Service take steps as soon as possible to include the substance of the proposals in circular 333 in its formal grazing and trespass policies."

While the stockmen's testimony showed

SHEEPMEN'S CALENDAR CONVENTIONS AND MEETINGS

August 22-23: Executive Committee, National Wool Growers Association, and Council of Directors, American Wool Council, Salt Lake City, Utah.

November 5-6: Washington Wool Growers Association, Yakima, Washington.

November 15-17: Wyoming Wool Growers Association, Worland, Wyoming.

December 3: Oregon Wool Growers Association, Portland, Oregon.

December 4-7: National Wool Growers Association, Portland, Oregon.

SHOWS AND SALES

February 16-25: San Antonio Livestock Exposition, San Antonio, Texas.

March 17-22: Grand National Junior Livestock Exposition, San Francisco, California.

April 30-May 1: California Ram Sale, Sacramento, California.

May 22: Pacific International Lamb Show, North Portland, Oregon.

August 20-21: National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City, Utah.

October 26-November 4: Grand National Livestock Exposition, San Francisco, California.

they favor adequate control of trespass, they contend that the grazing privileges should not be curtailed or revoked as a penalty but the damages should be assessed at a "good high rate" and in the case of repeated offenses, a fine should be imposed. The Council, however, reports that "all things considered" it "agrees with the general idea of curtailing or rejecting grazing privileges in cases of continued trespass."

Because they feel that under the present Forest Service procedure they are not assured that their side of the case will be given a fair and impartial consideration, the stockmen suggested to the Council that an independent division of investigation be set up, patterned after the Department of Interior procedure, such investigating group to be under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture but not connected with the Forest Service. It would send an examiner into the field, hold hearings and submit recommendations to the Secretary. As an answer to that request the Secretary of Agriculture set up the National Forest Advisory Board of Appeals** to advise him on any appeals from decisions of the Chief of the Forest Service.

"The establishment of the National Forest Advisory Board of Appeals provides the stockmen with opportunity for hearings by an independent group before the appeal goes to the Secretary," says the report of the Council. "It may not give the stockmen all the advantages they hoped to get out of their proposed division of investigations. It does, however, provide them with an opportunity for hearing by a group which has no administrative interest in the matters being appealed. The Council believes that with the recent establishment by the Secretary, of the National Forest Advisory Board of Appeals, that this Board will largely meet the request of the stockmen as indicated at the Denver hearing."

The Council also recommended the establishment of State Resources Boards made up of persons who represent the various major uses of the national forests. In some States these boards have been organized both on a forest and State level and are working in an advisory capacity to the Forest Service, the report declares, and while not specifically related to the trespass matter, the Council renews

**Members: John C. Bagwell, Chief of Production and Adjustment Division, Office of the Solicitor; George R. Phillips, staff member, Office of the Secretary of Agriculture; Edward G. Grest, Chief, Land Management Division, Soil Conservation Service; Dr. Stanley B. Fracker, Research Coordinator, Agricultural Research Administration; John A. Goe, Chief of the Wool Division, Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration.

its recommendations that more such boards be organized "as a means of improving national forest administration generally."

Since the Forest Service has indicated that it will discontinue the practice of withholding permits while trespass cases are under appeal, permittees, have made a slight advance in their struggle for stability in the use of national forest grazing lands.

Our Job—To Fight Inflation



THE livestock and meat industry has never done a better job than in its presentation of its position that increased production and neutralization of excess purchasing power are more effective ways of combating inflation than price controls and rationing, in the opinion of one experienced Washington observer.

Representatives of the major farm organizations, livestock and meat industry, including the National Wool Growers Association, have held meetings in Chicago, sent committees down to Washington, and made their views widely known. Out of the first meeting of these groups in Chicago on December 29th came the item "Livestock and Meat Production for Defense" (NWG, January, 1951 page 6). A January 22nd meeting reaffirmed the position taken at the earlier conference. A recent folder, "Our Job—To Help Fight Inflation," sets forth concisely the views of the farm and livestock groups on the serious problem. "Everyone agrees that the economy should be stabilized as we build a program for defense of the country," the folder states. "The solution of the problem is a matter of method not a question of the objective. The two methods under consideration—attack the symptoms or concentrate on the causes—are outlined here."

While meat prices are controlled in the general price regulation (live animals are exempt) it is believed that ultimately the Government will have to use some other means of stabilization. So a vigorous educational effort may be productive of good results. If you believe in this program, won't you help advance it?

*Our Job-*TO HELP FIGHT INFLATION

How Can This Be Done?

Two Alternatives Have Been Suggested:

ATTACK THE SYMPTOMS OF THE PROBLEM

What Does This Method Involve?

- A. Price freezes as temporary expedients.
- B. Price control and rationing over an extended period.
- C. Police power substitution for normal marketing functions.

What Will Be The Results of This Method?

- 1. Black markets.
- 2. Maldistribution of product.
- 3. Disruption of meat production.
- 4. Diversion of manpower to impossible enforcement job.
- 5. Disrespect for law.
- 6. Health hazards — unsanitary practices, lack of inspection.
- 7. Loss of by-products — including life-saving medicines.
- 8. Steps toward government regimentation of our entire economy.

CONCENTRATE ON THE CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM

What Does This Method Involve?

- A. Increasing the meat supply by:
 - 1. Growing more livestock.
 - 2. Increasing production and efficient use of feed.
 - 3. Reducing livestock losses.
- B. Neutralizing excess purchasing power by:
 - 1. Pay-as-we-go taxation.
 - 2. Limitations on consumer credit.
 - 3. Incentives for individual saving.
 - 4. Strict economy by government, business and individuals.
 - 5. Restrictions on expansion of money supply.
- C. Public recognition of the tough job that lies ahead.

What Will Be The Results of This Method?

- 1. More meat.
- 2. Equitable distribution of meat throughout the country.
- 3. Maximum production efficiency.
- 4. Normal business procedures rather than waste and graft.
- 5. Maximum supply of medicines and other by-products.
- 6. A sounder economy, both during and after the emergency.

Concentrating on the causes of the problem seems a clear choice over a program of price control that cannot control prices or rationing that cannot assure everyone a fair share of meat.

A Suggestion for Basic Land Management

By VERNON METCALF

Consultant, Nevada Wool Growers Association

Probably no one individual has put in more thought and hard work on the administration of grazing on the public lands than Vernon Metcalf, consultant to the Nevada Wool Growers Association and a member of the Stockmen's Grazing Committee that has prepared the "Suggestions For an Act to provide for the orderly use, improvement and development of the public lands and to stabilize the livestock industry dependent upon the public range." This article is the second part of his address before the National Wool Growers Association at Casper, Wyoming, on December 7, 1950. In the first installment, which came out in the January Wool Grower, Mr. Metcalf gave the reasons for the "Suggestions for an Act" and in this part of his address, he explains the main principles and objectives of the proposed legislation. Since this is one of the big problems of the livestock industry at this time, everyone using public grazing land will want to be informed about it. Mr. Metcalf's articles furnish a splendid source for such information.

YOUR Joint Committee is acting under instructions from the two national associations, the National Wool Growers, and the American National Cattlemen, the one representing sheep, and the other cattle. They took notice of this grazing land situation a year ago at their conventions at Denver, and at Miami, and passed resolutions, to the same general effect, that a joint committee between the two associations should be set up to go into this situation; and in anticipation that the Hoover Commission proposal might go through, and with no opposition to the general principle of every possible consolidation in Government agencies, and every possible economy thereby, that this committee should try and formulate a uniform plan of landlord-tenant relationship terms that could apply fairly to all interests concerned, to all of those Government pastures, whether they be under two systems, or whether the two systems be combined.

So the instruction from the two national associations to this committee was to build, try to build, a proposal of these terms on a basis that could be uniformly applied, to both the public-land pasture areas concerned.

When the committee got together its first job was to figure out what kind of an approach should be made to try and work out a proposal. Some reasoned that we should try and work it out in close administrative detail, something like trying to put into law the rules and regulations, or the Federal Range Code.

Other thinking was to the effect that under a regulatory system—and so long as there would have to be a regulatory system—there had to be some flexibility in the hands of the regulators; and that the proper approach, therefore, would be merely to set

up the standards of a guide on the basic principles that should apply to this landlord-tenant relationship, and let the landlord agents fix their regulations, and administer them with the advisory boards, inside of those guides. That approach was finally settled upon, as against the detailed-administrative approach.

Then came the question of whether or not the stockmen representatives of all of the eleven Western States, with a great variety of conditions, could agree upon the matter of where they stood, in the matter of their status as tenants at the present time, and what they hoped to accomplish, or where they hoped to get in the way of a better status as tenants in the use of these publicly owned pastures.

There was discussion by some as to whether or not we were in any position to claim any rights as against the Government through long use of these Government pastures, and, on that basis, whether we should set up a claim of rights and try to settle our questions in court; or whether we should agree that we had no rights as property rights against the Government; that we were merely privileged to use these public lands; and on that basis start out as tenants without much of any safeguards in the case of the forest pastures, and with some in the case of the Taylor grazing pastures—start out as tenants on that basis and see what we could do to improve our status, still being fair to all other interests concerned.

That latter approach was finally agreed upon as the one that is right, and that's the shape in which we have built this proposal that we now have before you. It isn't complete, it's just the best we've been able to do in the time that we have been given. Now the proposition is to bring it to you people, tell you what it is and get your re-

actions as to whether or not we are on the right track, and any suggestions that we might further consider to go ahead and perfect it, if we are on the right track.

I'm not going to attempt today to go through this proposal, this suggestion for an act section by section, but merely to give you the high spots of what the proposal involves on these tenancy terms that I've just been talking to you about and that we think are basically important, and recognized historically in every enlightened country of the world as necessary if a tenant is to have any chance to be a good tenant and do the right thing in the way of enterprise and protecting the resources that he uses in connection with it.

Stability of Tenure or Continuity

To get down to the brass tacks on the business, we have provided under this continuity of tenure, which some call stability of tenure, a preference system, pretty well taken out of the Federal Range Code set up under the Taylor Grazing Act, and again in this connection there isn't any support, we think, direct support for the provision in the Taylor Act itself.

This proposal is based on this theory: that we as stockmen would be asking the public as the owner of these lands for special treatment in the use of public property. In doing that we face a long-established precedent relative to the disposal of public property, that no one is supposed to be given special treatment in the disposal of such property. Under that precedent, a competitive-bid system is usually used in the disposal of public property, so that every citizen may have a chance at it, and so that no one can say that it was sold too cheaply.

Facing that situation and being in a position where we expected to have special treatment, we searched about for a reason upon which we could hang our special-treatment request, and of course it stood before us in this land-use pattern up here, that we are rather unusual tenants, and agricultural tenants, in the fact that in addition to the public pasture, we are required to furnish material investments of our own to round out the necessary year-round operating base for the operation of these breeding herds, year in and year out.

These investments must be of a kind which are dependent for their economic survival upon the Government pastures. So our proposal is based upon a request for special treatment to protect the investments in these dependent base properties we are required to furnish in order to qualify as tenants.

On that basis we have provided, to insure the interest of the public, that these collective operating units shall be kept together so as to furnish the best results from all the resources concerned, that a requirement to tenancy shall be continued ownership and operation of satisfactory base properties, and that it should be left to the landlord to decide whose properties are satisfactory.

So we made the tie-in on the preference that the existing tenant, so long as he measures up to the base-property standards established by the landlord and his agents, shall be given preference in the issuance of the tenancy privilege on each occasion that it becomes necessary to issue the privilege or the permit.

Now, that's nothing more or less than a principle that prevails in almost any agricultural tenancy under private control. It's very seldom that a lease provision in a tenancy on private lands, under the principles and customs that have been worked out for years as necessary to good tenancy, does not protect the existing tenant in the first chance to renew his tenancy privilege. That's all we're proposing here, that the existing tenant, so long as he measures up to the base-property standards, will be given the first chance at the privilege each time it is offered.

That's the continuity provision in effect that would establish by law what we like to call the priority provision of the Taylor grazing code, but for which no definite support can be found in the Taylor Act itself.

Proposal for Establishment of Charge

Under the charge policy we have simply tried to provide a basic principle on which

the charge at all times shall be determined. Generally, it's based upon the principle that the tenant shall not be charged beyond his ability to pay and meet the cost of this operation, including a fair return upon the investment that he is required to furnish in order to qualify as a tenant.

The wording in the proposal says that a reasonable fee shall be charged, the reasonableness to be determined by its effect upon the investment required in base property, and upon the proper support of those investments to the local economy, such as the support of the business and tax structures of the local community concerned.

After setting down that basic principle, we then proposed that a study be conducted by the Government agencies to determine the schedule of fees that would be reasonable on the basis of that principle. There is a wide variance in the fee that now exists on the Forest Service and on the Taylor grazing lands, or the summer pastures, and the spring and fall pastures, and a wide variance, in the philosophy which underlies the fixing of the fee.

The Forest Service philosophy has gradually developed into one where the landlord agents think they should have just

(Continued on page 43)



High mountain range in Washington.
Photo by Mary McLellan, Ellensburg, Washington.

The 1951 Wool Support Program

WHILE it is not expected that it will be necessary during 1951 for wool growers to take advantage of the price support provided under the Agricultural Act of 1949, the Department of Agriculture, under that law, must announce such a program. Proposals of the Department for the 1951 program have recently been made known by H. E. Reed, director of the Livestock Branch, Production and Marketing Administration.

"There is only one important change recommended," Mr. Reed wrote on January 17th, "and that relates to eligibility of wool for sale to the Commodity Credit Corporation. We are proposing that the 1951 contract be modified to limit purchases by CCC to wools owned by producers. This means that wool would be accepted by CCC as long as the producer had title to the wool; but, once the producer has sold his wool, it would be no longer eligible for the CCC program. The producer would continue to have the option of selling his wool in the open market or of delivering it to a handler on consignment to CCC. Also he would still have the privilege of pooling his wool and shipping it to a handler for sale to CCC. The only difference from the present program would be that any person who buys wool from a producer would not have the opportunity to resell such wool to CCC. This proposed change would not prevent a grower from marketing his wool in the usual manner or prevent him from obtaining the benefit of the support program by selling his wool to CCC."

It is also proposed that storage be made at a uniform rate to all handlers regardless of whether or not they operate their own storage facilities; also that all storage payments be computed on a hundred-weight basis. (Last year storage payments could be computed on a bag basis where the wool was stored in public warehouses.)

"With regard to computing the price differential between grades of wool," states Mr. Reed, "we presently have in mind using the formula developed during the course of our discussions last year. For 1951 price differentials, we would average the 1950 CCC purchase prices with 1950 open market prices. It is not planned, however, to publish the purchase price schedule unless it appears that the support program will become operative in 1951."

The support level which the Secretary establishes will be announced, however.

Under the Agricultural Act of 1949, the support level for wool must be at between 60 and 90 percent of parity as the Secretary of Agriculture determines necessary to encourage the production of 360,000,000 pounds of shorn wool. The program runs on a crop-year basis, from April 1

to March 31, and last year, the support level was set at 90 percent of parity as of March 15th.

It should be understood that the proposals outlined above are tentative; announcement of the official CCC agreement will be made before the end March,

Wool Support Program in Review

A USDA Report as of November 1, 1950

WITH only a few thousand pounds remaining of the more than 1,600 million pounds of wool purchased since the beginning of the Wool Price Support Program in 1943, a brief review of the program should be of timely interest to wool producers.

During the first two years of the program, essentially all wool produced in this country was channeled to the Commodity Credit Corporation. After August, 1945, producers had the option of selling wool to the Government or selling it in the open market.

Since the beginning of the program, a total of 169 shorn and 31 pulled wool dealers have participated in the program. While no wool has been purchased under the 1950 program, facilities are available should they be required, including operating contracts with 35 wool handlers.

The 1950 program was modified to give producers most of the advantages that are associated with a non-recourse loan. Under this modification, producers can find out from CCC the amount they will receive for their wool before making any commitment to sell. After receiving this information, producers can defer making a decision on selling to CCC until near the end of the program year.

In reviewing the make-up of wool purchased since the beginning of the program, about 1,300 million pounds of the total was shorn wool and approximately 300 million pounds was pulled wool. By program years, purchases were made in the following approximate quantities (in million pounds):

1943-274	1947-201
1944-340	1948- 80
1945-374	1949- 80
1946-285	1950- 00*

*Through October 30, 1950

The cumulative loss in disposing of wool purchased amounted to approximately 92.3 million dollars through June 30, 1950. This was about 5.8 cents per pound on the 1.58

billion pounds sold and delivered as of this date.

The most recent period of sales shows a net gain of approximately \$114,000 on about 400,000 pounds of wool. This gain averaged 29 cents for each pound delivered between July 1 and September 30, 1950.

A portion of the wool sold in 1948 and 1949 was to foreign countries under the Economic Cooperation Administration. This amounted to a little over 20 million pounds and went to Germany and Austria. In addition, the Greece Aid Program took about 1.1 million pounds.

The wool inventory showed a steady increase from the beginning of the program until September 1946 when it reached a peak of 523 million pounds. By January 1, 1950, this stock had decreased to approximately 45 million pounds, of which over nine million pounds were of 1947 and older wools.

However, by 1950 appraising of new wool was beginning to decline and the services of the field force were utilized in examining all remaining lots of wool. Larger lots were revalued if the classification or character of the wool had changed in storage. Small or unmerchantable lots of wool were moved to central storage locations where they were consolidated with other lots and in some instances reggraded. Throughout most of the program, small lots have been consolidated to make them more merchantable and this has been an extremely satisfactory method of handling the smaller lots of wool. In some cases an individual handler was authorized to consolidate lots when he had sufficient quantities. Most of the smaller lots were consolidated by Beatty & Hyde, Inc., under the supervision of the Livestock Branch Area Wool Office in Boston.

Of the wool purchased during the life of the program only 50,000 pounds now remain on hand. Most of this is office samples held by some handlers at the end of the active selling period on cores from the testing program and a small quantity of experimental wool. These few remaining

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pounds are now being consolidated and are expected to be sold within two or three months. All of this wool is either in the hands of Beatty & Hyde, Inc., or awaiting shipment from the Livestock Branch Wool Laboratory in Denver where it is being used for experimental purposes in connection with core testing.

As the inventory figures show, most of the program's operations are now past history. However, in any operation where as large a quantity of a commodity is handled as has been the case of the Wool Price Support Program, some apparent breaches of contract are bound to arise. Many of the claims arising from contract violations have been settled recently and the remainder should be out of the way soon. The many handlers who participated in the program in which thousands of lots of wool were bought and sold are to be congratulated on the fact that every lot of wool purchased in the eight years of this program has been accounted for.

Cattlemen's Convention

THE American National Livestock Association from now on will be known as the American National Cattlemen's Association. Official action changing its name was taken at the 54th annual meeting in San Francisco, January 8-10, 1951.

Gathering in large numbers, association members again chose Loren Bamert of Lone, California, as their chief for the coming year and also re-elected Sam C. Hyatt of Hyattville, Wyoming, as first vice president. Second vice presidents chosen include Louie Horrell of Globe, Arizona; Robert Lister, Pauline, Oregon; Frank Fehling, Nathrop, Colorado, John Hanson of Bowman, North Dakota, and Sylvan Friedman, Natchez, Louisiana. F. E. Mollin and Radford Hall were continued as executive secretary and assistant executive secretary, respectively. Charles E. Blaine and Calvin L. Blaine were continued as traffic and assistant traffic managers.

Cattlemen selected Fort Worth, Texas, for their 1952 meeting and adopted resolutions which:

1. Pledged the cattlemen of the Nation to whole-hearted support of the Government in the national emergency;
2. Vigorously opposed controls, rationing and subsidies in connection with meat as a peril to production and initiative;
3. Called for more economy in Government operations, with the elimination of all unnecessary services and expenses;
4. Urged that Federal meat inspection

Lamb Dish of the Month



Barbecued Lamb Shanks
Baked Potatoes Broccoli
Tossed Vegetable Salad
Corn Sticks Butter or Margarine
Deep Dish Apple Pie
Coffee Milk

BARBECUED LAMB SHANKS

- 4 lamb shanks
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup flour
- 2 tablespoons lard or drippings
- 2 teaspoons salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon pepper
- 1 cup water
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vinegar

- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 4 tablespoons catchup
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup raisins
- 8 prunes

Dredge lamb shanks with flour and brown in hot lard or drippings in frying-pan. Season. Combine remaining ingredients and pour over meat. Cover and cook in a slow oven (300° F.) for 2 hours or until tender. Remove to platter and serve with the sauce over meat. 4 servings.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME ECONOMICS,
NATIONAL LIVE STOCK AND MEAT BOARD

be maintained on the present basis so that present high standards would not suffer by danger of a packer-paid fee program;

5. Urged that Congress not permit lowering of tariffs on any commodity to a point that might endanger American labor, industry or agriculture;

6. Strongly endorsed the principles set up in the proposed act providing for the proper use of public grazing lands as proposed by the Stockmen's Grazing Committee;

7. Gave approval to the proposed Forest Service regulations covering the setting up of advisory boards, legalized under the Granger Act but requested Congress assist in delaying grazing cuts until such boards are established under the Granger Act so that permittees may have the ad-

vantage of appealing cases involving such cuts to legal advisory boards for decision;

8. Comended the National Live Stock Tax Committee, the National Live Stock and Meat Board, and the American Meat Institute.

Recommendations of the Transportation Committee were along the same lines as those resolutions adopted by the National Wool Growers Association, including opposition to further increases in freight rates on livestock, and a request that railroads comply with their agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and adhere to the minimum feed requirements in the 28-36 hour law. They also declared they were not opposed to reductions in rates on fresh meats and packinghouse products providing rates on livestock were reduced at the same time.

Utah's Outstanding Convention

January 24-25, 1951

UTAH's 44th annual convention was an outstanding event, characterized by large attendances at all sessions, an excellent array of speakers, well-considered actions—and unusually fine weather. It was climaxed by a lamb chop dinner, floor show and dance in the Hotel Utah's fam-



New Utah Vice President Welby Aagard and Mrs. Aagard of Fountain Green.

ous Lafayette Ballroom which drew some 1800 members and their friends for a very enjoyable evening on the 24th.

Don Clyde, through re-election, now beginning his 13th consecutive year as Utah's president, asked wool growers to forget that present low numbers of sheep are due to uneconomic treatment of the industry during World War II and to meet the present obligation of producing more wool and lambs to the best of their ability. National Association President Steiwer sounded an optimistic note by declaring in a brief talk that the present acute dearth of wool could be alleviated to considerable extent within five years. Utah's veteran secretary, James A. Hooper, also re-elected, reviewed the financial position of the association and some of its problems.

Efforts of the State Department of Agriculture to meet the challenge of Halogeton were outlined by Bryant Anderson, State Seed and Weed Supervisor; explanation of the proposed uniform grazing act was in the expert hands of F. R. Carpenter of Hayden, Colorado and the National Live Stock and Meat Board's effective work was vitalized by General Manager R. C. Pollock. A very spirited

"call to arms" for the protection and maintenance of the American way of life was made by, Presiding Bishop Joseph L. Worthlin of the LDS Church under the title "Is There Value in our Free Enterprise?"

The wool situation was handled by C. J. Fawcett, General Manager of the National Wool Marketing Corporation, at the annual meeting of the Utah Wool Marketing Association on the afternoon of Tuesday, January 23rd.

The Women's Auxiliary was charmingly represented by its president, Mrs. Sterling Ercanbrack of Provo.

Welby Aagard, Mayor of Fountain Green, Sanpete County, Utah, is the new vice president of the Utah Association. He replaces M. V. Hatch of Panguitch, who now is Utah's representative on the Executive Committee of the National Wool Growers Association. As mentioned above, President Clyde and Secretary Hooper were re-elected.

Well thought-out statements of the association's views on problems affecting the industry were presented by the committees. They are summarized as follows:

PUBLIC LANDS

Asked for continued cooperation of public agencies in solving land problems so that further reductions in livestock numbers may be eliminated.

Endorsed resolution of National Advisory Board Council approving increase in fees by Bureau of Land Management based upon principle that fees shall cover cost of administration of grazing and that only.

Urged cooperation and effort from all interested parties in brush control and reseeding programs to protect our lower-land ranges, to bring new lands into production of forage grazing, and to protect water supplies; that where permittees advance their own money in connection with such program they be given security of tenure upon the land involved until such money is repaid.

Requested sufficient appropriation by Congress to BLM for control and eradication of halogeton.

Commended Governor and State Land Boards for policy of leasing State lands in place on carrying capacity basis for a period of ten years and giving permittee privilege of leasing the State land within his allotment; also commended them for selling lands on appraisal valuation rather than competitive bids.

Commended administrators of grazing districts for work in connection with trespassing livestock.

Urged increase in grazing allotments wherever justified under present emergency.

Commended cooperation manifested by Casper giving approval to the "Suggestions for an Act to provide for the orderly use,

Fish and Game Department in establishment of number and location of antelope herds on Federal ranges; urged this control be extended to other game animals.

NATIONAL FORESTS

Adopted resolution passed at the National Wool Growers Association convention in



Secretary Hooper speaking at the Utah Convention. Seated are President Don Clyde and new Vice President Welby Aagard.

—NWGA Photos

improvement, and development of the public lands and to stabilize the livestock industry dependent upon the public range," as prepared and presented by the Stockmen's Grazing Committee.

Urged that if new advisory boards be set up under Public Law 478, they be organized on a district basis with equal representation for both types of livestock.

Recommended that good range improvement projects be carried out; water holes and reseeding areas developed, not only by the Forest Service but by individuals as well; that contemplated reduction of livestock be held in abeyance until an appraisal has been made of the reseeding program; suggested a lack of consistency in a national program that brings more land into production and at the same time limits or reduces livestock numbers.

GENERAL

Pledged full support in the defense of our democratic institutions and the principles of free enterprise; declared they will work harder and strive for bigger production.

Opposed price controls and rationing. Urged that reciprocal trade agreements be submitted to the Senate for ratification and that agricultural commodities essential for the Nation's defense not be included in any reciprocal trade agreements.

Opposed Brannan plan as one leading down the road to socialism.

Reaffirmed principle that an adequate tariff on wool, lambs and sheep, will increase the much needed supply.

Declared that the national budget should be shorn of all non-essential items; favored balancing of the budget and liquidation of the national debt as rapidly as possible.



Utah Convention Groups: At left are shown (left to right), James L. Hatch and M. V. Hatch of Panguitch; Don Clyde of Heber City; Wilford Humphrey of Orangeville, and Howard Hatch of Panguitch. Center (left to right) J. W. Swan of Kaysville; Jack Kippen of Mor-

gan; W. E. Kearn of Laketown and J. P. Johansen of Ely, Nevada. At right (left to right) Dr. W. T. Huffman, in charge of poison plant work, Bureau of Animal Industry, Salt Lake City; W. J. Wintch of Manti and Charles C. Anderson of Glendale, Utah. NWGA Photos.



Wool growers and their friends crowded the Lafayette Ballroom to enjoy the floor show following the convention banquet.

The Ladies Auxiliary had a good time also at their luncheon at the Newhouse Hotel. NWGA Photos.

Opposed any efforts, particularly that of State Legislature, to bring sheep shearing into the field of industry rather than agriculture.

Urged continued development of water resources within the State of Utah; recommended a substantial appropriation for the Utah Power Board for its field work.

Expressed appreciation to Kennecott Copper Corporation for its contribution of \$25,000 for a sheep improvement program under the direction of the Utah State Agricultural College.

Petitioned the Office of U. S. Attorney General for a modification of the Security Law to permit the importation of labor (Basque herders) desperately needed in the sheep industry.

Urged that State Board of Forestry and Fire Control be retained in the State Department of Agriculture and adequate funds, provided for its proper functioning, particularly if Utah should become a critical war area.

Asked that stockmen be permitted to claim capital gains on income from the sale of any breeding herd animals.

Urged Governor and State Legislature to give adequate financial support to experiment stations and the extension service, that they may continue their work along research and educational lines and help protect stockmen's investments in their industry.

Commended State Tax Committee and association officers for negotiations pertaining to valuation placed on sheep and lambs and asked for continuation of such cooperation.

Endorsed two-cent assessment for dues. Commended National Live Stock and Meat Board and American Meat Institute for their work and requested members to continue to support them.

ADVERTISING AND MARKETING

Recommended that each sheep outfit give more thought to management, and market their sheep, lambs and wool through intelligent, organized effort.

Recommended that every effort be made to oppose any increase in freight rates on wool, sheep and lambs as now being requested by the railroads.

Asked clarification of Rule 34 and that same rates that now require 30,000-pound minimum for a 40-foot car of wool be reduced to a minimum of 24,000 pounds.

Asked that the reduction of freight rates on wool under Docket 28863 be reflected in class rates.

Requested that the checking of wool into cars at loading points and the issuance of "clear bill" of lading by railroads be continued and if such service isn't furnished by the railroads that there be a further reduction in wool freight rates to compensate for this service.

Urged that operators of public auctions maintain scales that will pass inspection requirements of the State Department of Agriculture and that they provide a weighman licensed and bonded by the State Department of Agriculture to operate all scales.

Requested Extension Service of the Utah State Agricultural College to develop shearing schools.

Requested National Live Stock and Meat Board and American Meat Institute together with the various retail store outlets and other interested groups, to encourage the use of lamb; asked that the public be informed that lamb prices should be in line or below those of other meat as with lamb pelts selling at \$11 and the live lambs at 35 cents a pound, the cost of lamb is reduced to approximately 25 cents. Also asked that public be educated to use heavier lambs.

Since, due to the extreme shortage of burlap, many wool bags may be made of 10-ounce instead of 12-ounce burlap which will cause a variation in the weight of the wool bags from three to four pounds, requested that efforts be made to secure a tare of the actual weight of the bags rather than the previous standard of four pounds per bag.

Commended efforts of the Women's Auxiliary in promoting lamb and wool.

Recommended increased promotion of lamb and wool and greater diligence and caution in effectively marketing those products.

BIG GAME

Urged reduction in big game numbers; asked that reduction in game similar to that of livestock be made on national forests; suggested destruction of animals where they trespass on private land.

Asked BLM to pursue same program on other game animals as that in connection with elk.

(Continued on page 42)

State Presidents' Round Table



GERALD N. STANFIELD

Vice President
Oregon Wool Growers
Association

January 15, 1951

PRESIDENT Steiwer and I attended the annual meeting of the Western Oregon Livestock Association, held in Grants Pass, Oregon, January 15-17. The Western Oregon Livestock Association membership comprises producers of sheep, cattle (both beef breeds and dairy cattle) and hogs. Many of the sheepmen produce pure bred rams, and are members of the Oregon Wool Growers and the National. Several of the commercial sheepmen are not members of the Oregon Wool Growers, but do belong to the California Wool Growers Association. Their belonging to the California Association comes from two reasons: they market a goodly share of their lambs in California, and they enjoy the California Wool Growers' paper.

Of the sheep population of Oregon probably 65 percent is in western Oregon, that is, west of the Cascade Mountains. The flocks are mostly of small numbers. A few have from one thousand to three or four thousand and many from one hundred to five hundred. They pool their wool in many cases or consign to the cooperative wool companies. Many take their wool direct to the woolen mills in the Willamette Valley.

Along the coast many sheep graze the year round in the open areas and if you travel highway 101 you will see them feeding along the road in about the same places any time of the year.

Many of the sheep are shorn three times in two years. The lambs are generally sheared in the fall. Lambing on many farms is now in progress. The sheep are seldom fed in winter.

Oregon had been enjoying mild weather until the last week when some snow fell in the eastern half of eastern Oregon and the southern part of the State. The Columbia River Basin has enjoyed almost spring weather.

Some more of the few remaining clips of wool have sold from \$1.10 to, as I am told, \$1.25 for one good clip of fine wool. There are only a few clips of eastern Oregon wool not under contract.

There has been a contract written for one of our sheepmen's ewes at \$50 per

head—lambs at side; out of shearing corals, and present owner keeps the wool.



FRANK RODDIE
President

Texas Sheep and Goat
Raisers Association

January 25, 1951

THE biggest news this morning was carried in the San Angelo Standard Times to the effect that 5250 fleeces of Rambouillet yearling and lamb's wool have been contracted at \$1.50 per pound, gross. The same grower sold at his clip last year at 70 cents.

It is still extremely dry, and feeding of ewes now is wide spread, but there is still plenty of dry grass in most places. Most livestock are in from fair to good condition. The sheep country has not had so much as a sprinkle since the latter part of September.

The last mohair sales I know of were for a reported \$1.75 for adult hair and \$2.25 for kid.



MILTON MERCER
President

Washington Wool Growers
Association

January 24, 1951

TO date we are having a mild wet winter. The green grass is good. Several outfits are feeding supplemental feed as they will soon be lambing.

I have heard of wool contracts up to \$1.12. Probably 75 percent or better of the wool is contracted in this state.



DAVID LITTLE
President

Idaho Wool Growers
Association

January 24, 1951

THERE is no room for non-essentials in Government at this critical time. We are being asked to pay burdensome taxes, which may even become greater. Our Government should set the example by economizing.

Idaho weather continues favorable. Storms of moderate proportions have been sweeping the State off and on for the

past ten days. This is the first real winter weather we have had. Early lambing is just getting started in western Idaho, along the Snake River.

Wool prices are history before they are reported, but here is a review of activity since turn of the year. Sales have ranged from \$1.10 to the high (yesterday) of \$1.36 1/3, paid for a western Idaho range clip. Very little wool remains, our best estimate is about 8 percent.

Offers on 1951 lambs materialized into contracts when a few late lambers, eastern Idaho, sold at 28 cents for fats and feeders for about October delivery. To date most sheepmen have refused offers, I am told. No offers here, as yet, on spring fat lambs.

General upward movement of costs may make us all, if they continue, wonder just what price is sufficiently high at which to sell wool or lambs. Dollar-wool sounds like flush times, but I'll venture the guess producers will need every cent they get, including stronger lamb prices, to pay expenses and maintain replacements. Uncontrolled inflation is rapidly destroying values, as we think we know them. Confusion, waste and war hysteria, along with deliberate fomented scare talk, hazard our future.



HAROLD JOENDAL
President

Wyoming Wool Growers
Association

January 25, 1951

THE principal interest in Wyoming during the past month has been the contracting of 1951 wool. During this past month probably 75 percent of the Wyoming clip has been contracted at prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$1.25 per pound. The remaining unsold clips are scattered throughout the State, mostly along the Union Pacific. At the present rate of contracting, it looks as though very little wool will be left unsold at shearing time.

There has been a small amount of early contracting of 1951 lambs at 28 cents in the Rock Springs area.

Throughout most of January Wyoming has experienced a mild winter. Temperatures have generally been above seasonal and there has been less precipitation than usual. The eastern part of the State is

(Continued on page 41)

Policy On 1080 Poisoning Campaign

By DORR D. GREEN
Chief, Branch of Predator and Rodent Control
Fish and Wildlife Service

The policy established by the Fish and Wildlife Service on the use of 1080 poison for the control of coyotes and other predatory animals was presented by Dorr D. Green, Chief, Branch of Predator and Rodent Control of the Fish and Wildlife Service at the Casper convention of the National Wool Growers Association, at the special request of several sheepmen. His statement is given here in full.

THE Fish and Wildlife Service through its laboratory in Denver did not discover 1080 but we did discover the material was of use in, not only predator control but in rodent control. The first use that was made of the material in the United States for control purposes was to control rats on farms and in cities. We soon found that it was good for other purposes, although at the same time we found that it was one of the most powerful materials that had ever been used as a rodenticide, or as a poison for larger animals.

Fortunately, however, the material does not have the same poisonous effect on all animal life, and fortunately again the coyote is one of the most susceptible animals to 1080 poisoning. In fact, as we use it in the field 100 pounds of meat that's been treated with 1080 is sufficient to kill 1600 coyotes. In other words, one ounce of that meat, in theory, will kill a coyote and two ounces of it has killed every animal to which it has been fed, in measured amounts.

On the other hand, the same material requires much larger doses for killing most other animals, outside of the dog family and the cat family, both of which are susceptible to the poison in small doses. We have fed 20 ounces of the same material that we use in coyote control without killing the golden eagle. It takes ten times the amount, per pound of body weight, to kill a badger as it does a coyote; and many of the other forms of wildlife, as well as domestic animals, require much larger doses per pound of weight than does the coyote.

But nevertheless the poison is a very potent one, as you will realize when 1.6 grams of pure 1080 is sufficient to treat a hundred pounds of meat and to kill 1600 coyotes on the range.

The mere potency of 1080, in our opinion, requires that it be used carefully. In rat control, for instance, to date there have been 24 human deaths caused by the use of 1080, three of which were suicides, and most of the others were caused by pure carelessness. In the city of New York they now prohibit the use of 1080 in rat control

except with a permit for each particular job, and that permit is good for 24 hours only. In some other cities they have prohibited the use of it.

In controlling ground squirrels and prairie dogs we have found that by coloring the grain on which poison is placed gives a great degree of protection to birdlife in the area. In other words, rodents will take colored material where birds will not, and through the use of a bright yellow dye we have found considerable protection to birdlife in the field, and that would apply both to songbirds as well as to gamebirds.

In predator control we started out with experiments on a small scale the first year, and found that it was effective for controlling coyotes, but that it was a danger too, particularly to dogs running in the area in which it was used. We also found that we could give considerable protection to other animal life in the area in which 1080 might be used, if we kept our stations far enough apart to prevent most of those other animals from finding them.

So we have played on the wide-ranging habit of the coyote, which extends for a number of miles, as against the shorter ranging habits of other animals, to work out a system of poison placement that will effectively control your coyotes on the range and, at the same time not unnecessarily destroy many of the other animals.

In doing that we found if your stations were placed on an average of one per township of land—and please note that I stated average—that an effective coyote-control program could be accomplished with little danger to other forms of animal life. We have had some questions raised as to the placement of stations on a one-per-township basis.

In working out the density of placement, we first try to prescribe what we term as a control unit. Now, that control unit is, under different circumstances, a flexible thing. It may be a valley between two mountain ranges, it may be a county or it may be even more than a county. And within that prescribed unit we have authorized in our

policy that the number of 1080 stations should not exceed one per township on the average.

That means that in certain townships you might have more than one station, where the travelways are known and where you can't control the situation by putting only one. It also means that in other parts of the prescribed area they may have areas where stations would be more than six miles apart. But on the whole we have found that under that policy, an effective control program can be accomplished.

To give you a little basis for that statement, we have up to now had experience back of us in the placement of more than fifty thousand 1080 stations in the West. That covers a period of several years. Last year we placed nearly 17,000. As to this year to date, I don't know how many have been placed and how many are still to be placed, because right now we are in the middle of the program.

There are certain areas in mountainous country where more than one station in a particular township is required to do an effective job. On the other hand, in considering a control unit it is almost always possible to keep the total number within an average of one per township.

We do attempt to keep 1080 out of known fur-bearer territories, particularly marten, mink, or animals of that nature. We have been in the past very successful, I think, in keeping 1080 away from marten. In the first place, we have carried on studies in the higher, mountainous areas of Colorado, which indicate that marten will not leave timber to go to a poison station. In fact we have started with dummy stations, just a piece of horsemeat, put it in the timber where marten were present. Marten fed on it, we dragged it to the edge of the timber, and they followed it. We dragged it out of the timber and they followed it for a short distance, but when we got more than 50 yards from the timber, the marten refused to go any farther.

By keeping stations out of timbered areas a sufficient distance, the danger to marten

is indeed small. Fox, of course, are susceptible to poison, they will eat on stations, they will travel in more than open territory, but the range of the fox is very, very limited, and though you may kill a few, if the stations are properly located, you should not in any sense of the word, endanger a population of foxes.

In fact, in Arizona the game department

of that State made a study of an area we had poisoned with 1080 for coyote control, as they were interested in that State, in reducing the fox population as well as the coyotes. They came back with the report that the coyotes were practically gone in the area but the foxes seemed to be as numerous as before. That's simply based on the fact that they don't travel.

Breeding Sheep

Columbias. Champion ram, R. J. Shown, Monte Vista, Colorado; champion ewe, Jimmy Hurt, Center, Colorado; both reserve awards, Ted Goehl, Center, Colorado.

Corriedales. Champion ram, champion ewe and both reserve awards, University of Wyoming, Laramie, Wyoming.

Hampshires. Champion and reserve champion rams, and reserve champion ewe, Ward R. Smith, Ft. Collins, Colorado. Champion ewe, Vincent C. Erickson, La-Porte, Colorado.

Rambouillets. Champion ram, champion ewe and both reserve awards, University of Wyoming.

Suffolks. Champion ram, C. R. Sanderson & Sons, Monte Vista, Colorado; reserve champion ram, University of Wyoming; champion and reserve champion ewe, Rae Davidson, Saratoga, Wyoming.

Southdowns. Champion ram and champion ewe, George & James Kemp, Denver, Colorado; both reserve awards, Hillstead Farm, Denver.

Wool Awards

Gates Davis, Crownpoint, New Mexico, displayed the champion territory fleece (fine wool) which went on to win grand champion honors of the show. The New Mexico A&M College had the reserve grand champion fleece which also stood first in the class for fleeces from Corriedale rams. R. B. Rogerson, Walden, Colorado, had the winning three-eighths blood territory fleece and Jerry King, Cheyenne, Wyoming displayed the champion farm flock fleece, a low quarter blood. In the fine Texas and New Mexico fleece division, S. P. Johnson, Jr. of Roswell, New Mexico, won the championship award.

Hampshire Meeting

ALL officers of the American Hampshire Sheep Association were re-elected at their 61st annual meeting in Chicago on November 29th: President, Alex Meeks of Burkes Garden, Virginia; Vice President Virgil B. Vandiver, Leonard, Missouri; Secretary Helen Tyler Belote, Detroit, Michigan.

Premiums totaling \$7,000 were authorized for the coming year, along with \$7000 for advertising and publicity.

A motion was adopted instructing the Board of Directors to prepare an amendment to Article 17 of the breed association's constitution re-arranging its districts into less widely scattered and more efficient units. The amendment will be voted upon at the next annual meeting.

The National Wool Grower

National Western Sheep Honors

TOP awards in the sheep and wool divisions of the 45th annual National Western Stock Show (Denver, Colorado, January 13-21, 1951) are given as follows:

Fat Sheep Class

Carloads of Fat Lambs: Grand champion and reserve champion, Northern Colorado Junior Lamb Feeders. Champion load, average weight 98.4 pounds, sold to Armour and Company at \$40.75 per hundred; reserve champion load, average weight 101 pounds, sold to Swift and Company for \$36.75 per hundred.

Truckloads: Grand champion, Eugene Doversberger, Brighton, Colorado. Average weight 91 pounds; sold to Rath Packing Company at \$47.50 per hundred. Reserve champion, Northern Colorado Junior Lamb Feeders. Average weight 96 pounds; sold to Swift and Company for \$37.25 per hundred.

Fat Lamb: Grand Champion, University of Wyoming. Purchased by Ernest Ramstetter of Golden, Colorado, at \$7.50 a pound and resold for March of Dimes at \$3.50 a pound to Adams Packing Company. Reserve grand champion, Bob Delap of Lexington, Nebraska. Harry Heath & Son bought this lamb at \$2.50 a pound and resold it to Rath Packing Company



Ernest Ramstetter, Corriedale breeder, of Golden, Colorado, bought the champion lamb at the 1951 National Western Stock Show in Denver. Paid \$7.50 a pound for the lamb and then donated it to the March of Dimes. In the resale, it brought \$3.50 a pound from King Super Markets. The lamb is shown below. A Brett Gray Photo.

at \$2.25 for the Colorado Make It Yourself With Wool Contest.

Junior Fat Lamb: Champion, Bob Delap, Lexington, Nebraska; reserve champion, Don Brozovich, Lakewood, Colorado; sold at 60 cents a pound to Armour and Company.

Junior Pens of Three: Champion, Don Brozovich; reserve champion, Nina Houston, Saratoga, Wyoming.



Champion lamb at the National Western Stock Show, a very toppy Southdown. A Brett Gray Photo.

Public Land Grazing: What the Stockman Wants

By F. R. CARPENTER, Hayden, Colorado

F. R. Carpenter, cattle rancher of Hayden, Colorado, and the first Director of Grazing under the Taylor Grazing Act, has talked at several State conventions of wool growers during recent months on a uniform grazing law. The address given here was made at the Colorado Wool Growers' meeting in Denver on November 27, 1950.

THE future of the great Federal grazing lands in the eleven far Western States is a matter of national concern. The Hoover Commission wound up their study of the matter by filing two different recommendations. The majority report was in favor of putting all grazing lands in the Department of Agriculture on the theory that as they concerned a pastoral industry they properly belonged in the farm department. The minority report went a little deeper in its analysis of the situation and recommended that grazing along with the utilization of all other Federal natural resources, such as water, oil, timber, coal, minerals, etc., be grouped together in a new Department of Conservation so that the Nation could have an opportunity to develop a unified and coordinated program.

More recently President Truman, in an endeavor to get further advice on the matter has sent a task force into the West, consisting of representatives of the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, and the Bureau of the Budget, to take testimony on the ground and to make further recommendations as to what had best be done about grazing of public lands.

While it is true that many range stockmen testified at those hearings along with a great number of persons interested chiefly in the recreational, wildlife, winter sports and other uses the public lands are capable of sustaining, it was also true that the basic facts of the situation were either unknown to the witnesses, or if known were overlooked by them, and the investigators got mostly an assorted lot of trivia of concern mainly to the narrators while the main issue was left in darkness. Briefly the facts about grazing on public lands are these:

1. Seventy-five percent of the public land in the national forests and grazing districts in the eleven Western States is chiefly and almost exclusively valuable for grazing. Less than 25 percent contains any dense merchantable timber or has any critical or key value for watershed protection. There is no grazing on lands containing dense merchantable timber and never has been.

2. Most Federally owned grazing lands are incapable of sustaining a year-round livestock operation alone, and can be used effectively only in connection with privately owned lands and water.

3. The range livestock industry now built up by connected use of public and private lands and water, represents 75 years of effort on the part of the inhabitants and the Federal officials to make the most effective combination economically and geographically possible of the natural forage resources of the region, and any change in policy by either of these interested groups without the consent of the other is bound to create waste in the national economy.

4. With the regulation of the free range through the formation of the U.S.D.A. Forest Service in 1905 and the Grazing Service of the Department of the Interior in 1934 patterns of operation were stabilized

through range control. The days of the free open range were ended—and so was competition for grass which had resulted in overstocking and forage depletion. Gone, too, were the wars between sheep and cattle interests.

5. The range livestock industry should now be reviewed in the light of international politics and a world situation which is concerned not only with wool, lamb, leather and beef production, but also the maximum use of all national resources, public and private.

With this approach to the problem it is at once apparent that the ones chiefly to be affected by the Government's policy are the owners of the private lands and waters so inextricably laced up with the grazing resources of the public lands. They are the range stockmen of the U. S. who control

(Continued on page 41)



F. R. Carpenter, public land expert (left), with Acting Colorado Governor Charles Murphy (center) and Wyoming President Harold Josendal at the Colorado Wool Growers' Convention. A NWGA Photo.

The West as a Wool Textile Center

Bright Future Predicted by F. E. ACKERMAN

THE Mountain and Pacific Coast States will become more and more important as a market for an expanding West Coast wool textile industry, centering in Oregon and serving the growing requirements of the area's increasingly important men's and women's clothing industry, F. Eugene Ackerman, president of The Wool Bureau, New York City, predicted in an address before the members of the Portland Chamber of Commerce at their Members' Forum on January 22nd.

The speaker pointed to enormously increased western markets for wool, and the fact that the West has taken the lead in originating new styles in casual clothing, as factors in the area's growing importance as a textile center as well as a hub of clothing manufacturing.

Bureau Considering West Coast Expansion

Mr. Ackerman said he was just completing a tour of the major clothing merchandising and manufacturing centers of the Pacific area to evaluate the desirability of expanding the Bureau's activities on the West Coast. Although no decision has been reached, he cited the area's "amazing growth in population and in general prosperity" as a principal factor in considering such a move.

He pointed out that the per capita consumption of wool in the seven States of Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah and Idaho was greater than in any other given area in the country. The Pacific Coast area is the second largest producer of women's suits and coats in the Nation, with principal producing centers in San Francisco and Los Angeles, and it is one of the ten largest producers of men's clothing, he declared.

"It is hardly necessary to move outside the great orbit of wealth and population to be found in the western and southwestern States to find adequate markets," Mr. Ackerman declared. "The West today sets, instead of follows, styles. The East is eager for the casual clothes of the West. Modern communications are so rapid that the styles made in Oregon today can be delivered tomorrow morning in New York. The area of which Portland is the center lies within the great wool-growing section of the Nation and is adjacent to the Pacific Coast, which is the arrival point for

the largest part of the foreign wools we must import.

"There have been discussions and proposals looking toward the extension of wool textile production in the West. It would seem that Oregon, because of its long traditions and the eminent wool authorities it has developed, is an ideal site for the further development of a great wool textile and wool apparel industry."

Western Styles Affecting All U. S.

The Pacific Coast area has produced casual fashions for outdoor wear which are indigenous to the western scene but which are having a profound effect on our national clothing styles and the habits of dress of men, women and children, he declared.

"We are entering a period in which casual dress is more and more important," he went on. "Here in the West, because of surroundings and traditions, fabrics which meet the requirements of the casual trend can be made with great success."

"Within the past decade the population in the geographic area comprising the Twelfth Federal Reserve District and including Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico has increased almost three times faster than the national total," Mr. Ackerman declared. "Today this area contains 13 percent of the Nation's population compared to a little more than 10 percent ten years ago. In other words, it now has a population of approximately 20 million persons compared to 13,500,000 in 1940.

"Per capita purchasing power in dollars since 1939 has increased 240 percent and in 1949 was 11 percent higher than the national average. In terms of dollars, this represents a total income in 1939 of \$8,584,000,000 compared to \$28,165,000,000 in 1948. Per capita disposable income in 1949 exceeded the average income throughout the United States by almost \$150 per person.

Big Increase in Incomes

"Of all the States in the Pacific Northwest, Oregon showed the greatest percentage increase in individual incomes—264 percent compared to a national average of 192 percent. Total retail sales of consumer goods in the Pacific Northwest in the period between 1939 and 1949 in-

creased 23 percent faster than the national average."

No other section of the Nation has a climate which requires the protective qualities of wool through so many months of each year as do the States of the Pacific Northwest, he declared.

Mr. Ackerman commended Portland and the State of Oregon for their leadership as wool textile centers for nearly a century, and declared that "no other factors in the wool textile and the wool apparel industries have had a greater or more far-reaching effect upon regional and folk styles in clothing than have the mills in Oregon." In particular, he paid tribute to Clarence Bishop, president of Pendleton and Washougal Mills, for his "wholehearted support of all our efforts to promote and increase the use of wool," and observed that "all of us interested in wool owe him a deep debt of gratitude."

Cloud-Light" Wool

"CLOUD-light wool" is the center of a major promotion program in women's wear by the Wool Bureau, Inc., for this spring. "The season's newest-looking fashions come forth in an array of whisper-weight wool and worsted fabrics that would have left Grandmother gasping," fashion commentators are broadcasting. Incidentally, these cloud-light wools average from ten ounces down to an all but incredible one ounce a yard. The sheerest of them are as transparent as chiffon and appear in spring's coolest and loveliest afternoon dresses and shadow coats. The fabrics, weighing from six to ten ounces, will be used in wool and worsted suits, basket weave tweed coats, fleece toppers and fitted coats of feather-light doeskin. These fabrics come in all important colors.

The Wool Bureau is pushing "cloud-light" wools in its usual comprehensive and original manner. Radio and newspaper copy, and all types of advertising aids are being sent over the country. Bureau staff members are also scheduled to begin field trips shortly to selected groups of department and specialty stores in various parts of the Nation to promote "cloud-light" wool and put in a good word, of course, for all types of wool merchandise.

Australian Merinos Arrive In U.S.A.



Mrs. J. W. Mailliard, Jr., of Mendocino and San Francisco and Professor J. F. Wilson with one of the highly prized Merino rams in the exclusive Australian shipment.

THE first Merino sheep exported from Australia to any country other than New Zealand in 30 years were unloaded from the Matson Line's cargo ship, "Sierra," in San Francisco, January 18th.

Three rams and nine ewes from the best strains of Australian Merinos—finest wool bearing animals in the world—arrived by exclusive grant from the Australian Commonwealth to the University of California College of Agriculture for research. The shipment was permitted only with the understanding that the animals will be used for research purposes only.

This marked the only break in a 30-year embargo against exportation of Merinos from the Commonwealth.

The dozen sheep will be added to the university's breeding project on the Davis campus and on a Mendocino County field station.

Object of the breeding program, in essence, is to put the superior wool of Australian sheep on the backs of the superior bodies of American sheep.

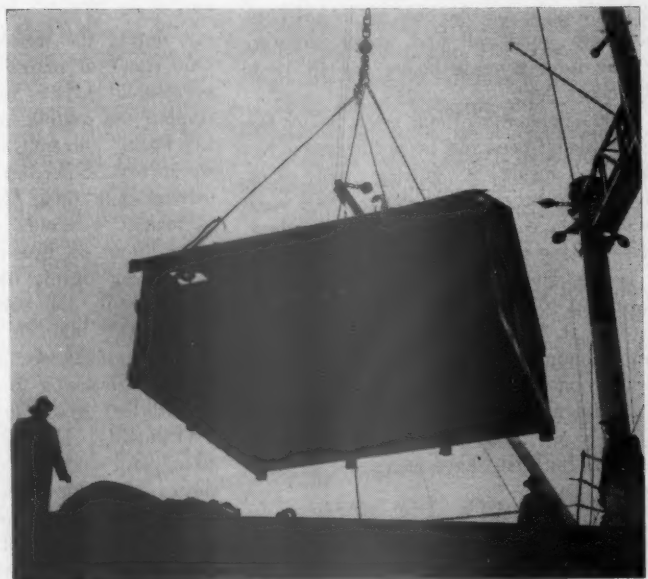
Key figures at the dock to witness handling of the sheep were: J. F. Wilson, professor of animal husbandry, who directs the project; William C. Weir, assistant professor of animal husbandry; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Mailliard, Jr., of San Francisco, whose gift to the university financed the purchase of the Merinos; and W. P. Wing, secretary-treasurer of the California Wool Growers Association.

Landing of the sheep was the culmination of many years' endeavor by Prof. Wilson, R. D. Foote, farm advisor of Mendocino County, Agricultural Extension Service, and others in the university.

Prof. Wilson and Mrs. Mailliard flew to Australia last fall to select the sheep. They were chosen from three of the more than 400 Merino stud flocks in the Commonwealth.

For a number of years the University of California College of Agriculture has conducted a breeding project with New Zealand Merinos, maintaining a flock of these sheep at the Davis campus. This research program, administered by the College's division of animal husbandry with Professor J. F. Wilson in charge, looks toward a transfer of the fleece of the New Zealand Merino to the superior body of the Rambouillet. The two strains of Merino—the Rambouillet and New Zealand—have been crossed in this experiment.

While the New Zealand sheep have demonstrated the capacity greatly to improve the wool production of American strains, Professor Wilson states that they are not so good in size, conformation or fleece as the Australian sheep. The new importation should therefore produce animals superior to any now in this country.—U. of C. Release



The ark in which the Merino sheep traveled to California being lowered dockside in San Francisco from the Matson freighter "Sierra."

Halogeton Poisoning in Sheep

By L. R. VAWTER, D.V.M., M.S.
Department of Veterinary Science
University of Nevada

HALOGETON glomeratus, a poisonous range plant of foreign origin, is rapidly spreading over the overgrazed and burned over ranges and along highways in some Intermountain States. The exact time and manner of introduction into this country is not known. Heavy infestations now occur on some ranges in northeastern Nevada, southern Idaho and northwestern Utah. Smaller localized areas of this plant have been discovered in several other Western States. The first plants of Halogeton observed growing in Nevada were collected and identified in 1935. At that, owing to its green succulent nature during the growing season, it was believed that it might make a fair forage plant for cattle and sheep and also serve as fire breaks.

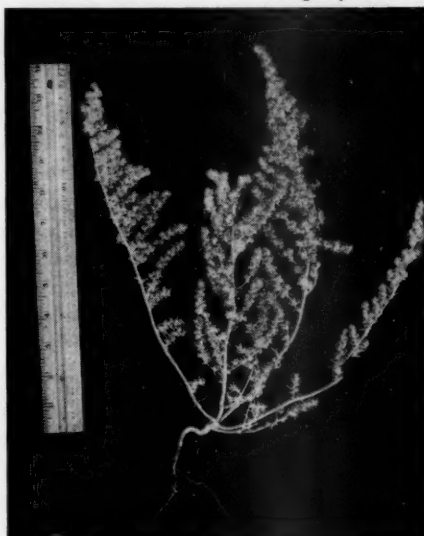
In some respects, Halogeton rather closely resembles Russian thistle and Bassia (alkali weed) but is distinguished from them by high moisture content in the green state, rounded leaves and a curved, pointed hair at the end of each leaf. Branching occurs from the base. As it matures in September and October, it may exhibit varying colors such as reds and purples. When in full bloom, it carries a solid mass of flowers ranging in color from pale yellow to red. The plant may vary widely in size according to soil and moisture conditions. Along the dry shoulders of highways it may be only six inches high, but with good soil and ample moisture it may form a dense bushy growth 18 to 20 inches high.

In the winter of 1942, some heavy losses of sheep occurred in northeastern Nevada as result of grazing this plant. Since then, other heavy sheep losses have occurred in eastern Nevada and southern Idaho during the late fall and early winter. It is also known that cattle will eat this plant and some losses have occurred as a result of it. Sheep feeding tests with Halogeton conducted at the University of Nevada confirmed its poisonous nature in 1943 and 1944. At that time, sheep losses definitely ascribed to it were rather infrequent but they have increased in subsequent years.

Investigations made at the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station between 1947 and 1950 showed that the poisonous action of Halogeton is due to the high concen-

tration of oxalic acid salts which may reach 17 to 18 percent of dry weight at the time of maturity in September and October. The poisonous salts are mainly in the form of soluble sodium oxalates but calcium oxalates and potassium oxalates also occur in lesser amounts.

Chemical examinations by M. R. Miller at the Nevada station have shown that the soluble oxalates are rather rapidly leached



A current range menace: Halogeton

out during the winter by rain and snow. One stand of plants carried 17.1 percent of soluble oxalates in September. By December the soluble oxalates had decreased to 14.68 percent and after December storms to 2.55 percent. In March, the plants carried only 0.62 percent. This decrease in toxicity generally coincides with range observations on livestock losses, which usually occur during the late fall and early winter while the soluble oxalate content is still very high. It is believed that the soluble oxalates are alone responsible for livestock poisonings because they are readily absorbed from the digestive tract.

Ordinarily, Halogeton is not a palatable plant and is usually avoided by all classes of range livestock when there is other palatable forage available. On the other hand, grazing of this plant by sheep is unpredictable. There are times when it will be sought and grazed by sheep for a limited time in preference to other readily available good forage. Salt starvation ap-

parently is not a factor according to observations by Mark Shipley at the Knoll Creek Field Station in Elko County, Nevada. Most of the livestock losses have occurred among sheep while on winter range when other forage is scarce. Furthermore, snow or light rains soften the stems and render them more palatable. Cattle losses have occurred but only under conditions where they were forced to eat it in the absence of other forage.

Feeding tests made with sheep at the University of Nevada during the past several years show that the amount of mature plant required to kill a sheep is roughly proportional to the weight of the animal and the soluble oxalic acid salt content of the plant sample. Four to 5 ounces of dry plant containing 17 to 18 percent of sodium oxalate will kill a 60 to 70-pound lamb, 8 ounces will kill mature ewes weighing 105 to 110 pounds, and 9 to 10 ounces will kill mature sheep weighing 135 to 165 pounds. A pregnant ewe with borderline low serum calcium of 8.9 mg.* was killed more quickly than those with normal serum calcium levels.

After feeding a lethal dose of Halogeton to sheep, dullness appears in 2 to 4 hours and is followed by prostration and coma 1 to 3 hours later. At the time when dullness or prostration appeared, at least 50 percent of the serum calcium may have been lost and the serum calcium level decreased to 5 mg. per 100 or less. The normal serum calcium level for sheep varies between 9 and 12 mg. per 100 cc.** of serum. Death occurs in 6 to 10 hours and is the result of a rapidly overwhelming loss of inorganic serum calcium. At death or shortly before, as much as 80 percent of the serum calcium has disappeared from the blood.

Attempts to replace the serum calcium lost by administering calcium compounds customarily used clinically either by mouth, intravenously or intra-abdominal routes have failed entirely even though treatment was started when dullness appeared. Under average conditions among sheep on the range, a large number of animals might be virtually at death's door before the herders knew anything was radically wrong. Then it is too late and irreparable damage has been done. At this time, there

*Milligrams.

**Cubic centimeters.

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is no practical way of saving sheep after definite symptoms of poisoning appear.

A 155-pound ewe was fed 7 ounces of Halogeton, which is approximately 80 percent of a lethal dose for a sheep of this weight. In the four hours immediately following feeding, the serum calcium decreased 20 percent but did not drop any lower. It did not return to the normal pre-feeding level until 48 hours later.

The visible post-mortem lesions are not sufficiently distinct to be significant and diagnostic of this form of poisoning. Kidney sections examined under polarized light reveal large aggregates of calcium oxalate crystals lodged in the tubules of the kidney's cortex. No other plant poisoning is recognized that results in such a rapid loss of serum calcium with the deposition of such aggregates of calcium oxalate in the kidneys. These features together with a history of grazing Halogeton and finding portions of the plant in the paunch contents seem ample evidence for making a positive diagnosis of Halogeton poisoning.

The amount of this plant required to kill cattle has not been determined experimentally, due to their high unit cost. The normal blood calcium levels of cattle are about the same as sheep. However, on a theoretical basis and in view of our work with sheep, between three and four pounds of plant might prove fatal for a 900- to 1,000-pound steer. Cattle generally tolerate treatment with calcium compounds better than sheep but in either species such treatment must be performed cautiously.

Many factors might enter into Halogeton poisoning of sheep or cattle on the range, such as the amount of feed previously consumed and in the stomach at the time when the plant is grazed, stage of plant growth, season of the year and nutritional state of the animals, particularly available body calcium.

We do not know much about the calcium balance of sheep on the range. But we did observe in our work on sheep that withholding feed for 18 to 20 hours always caused some decrease, usually 5 to 10 percent in serum calcium levels. Sheep subsisting on poor range or those arriving in a Halogeton area after moving some distance might be more readily poisoned than others under more favorable feed conditions.

At the present time, the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station is conducting a feeding experiment wherein pregnant ewes are receiving a daily intake of different dosage levels of Halogeton to observe the effect on pregnancy, milk production, weight of lambs and blood calcium

levels. The results cannot be predicted at this time. However, observations during the past thirty days indicate that pregnant ewes receiving 4 to 5 pounds of alfalfa hay daily, which is a good source of calcium, can tolerate at least one-third of a killing dose of Halogeton daily without any visible effect on their physical condition, serum calcium levels or pregnancy. These ewes are now in their fourth month of pregnancy.

Most of the information given here has been published in annual reports of the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station in 1948 and 1949. A more detailed report will be made in a station bulletin now being prepared.

The Halogeton problem now facing the range country of the intermountain region calls for vigorous measures to control and counteract it. More than 2 million acres of valuable grazing land in three

States now have a heavy infestation of almost pure stands of this plant to the exclusion of all others. It is a very prolific seed producer and the very small seeds which are about one twenty-fifth of an inch in diameter can be readily carried great distances by livestock, vehicles and persons. They will germinate in 24 hours with favorable moisture and temperature. Any minor soil disturbance such as blading the shoulders of highways, vehicle and livestock trails furnish excellent conditions for spread to new locations. Spraying with herbicides has been proposed and tried but there is also the danger of killing all other valuable forage plants. Control seems possible but it will take skilled men and money. We suggest that when forced to trail livestock through Halogeton areas, some bulky feed such as hay should be provided at overnight bed grounds to avoid hungry livestock taking a fill on this plant.

Views of Government Agencies on Halogeton Problem

HALOGETON, the rapidly spreading stock-killing weed from Southwestern Asia, can be curbed by preventing soil degeneration and by maintaining the vegetative cover on western range lands, Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman advised on January 14, 1951, in response to numerous requests from stockmen that the Federal Government undertake a weed-control program on the millions of acres of public range land in the West.

"Experiment and observations by Bureau of Land Management range managers have shown that halogeton cannot compete successfully with hardy grasses," according to BLM Director Marion Clawson. "If infested areas that are susceptible to successful reseeding are seeded with crested wheatgrass, for example, Halogeton is choked out." Crested wheatgrass, he added, comes from the same general area as Halogeton.

Halogeton—an annual—resembles its relative the Russian thistle, a "tumble-weed," and must get a fresh start each year. The tiny seeds find lodging wherever the native vegetation has been altered or broken, and on areas of high salinity or alkalinity where other plants do not thrive.

The weed's poisonous effect is caused by oxalates in the form of sodium and potassium salts that form insoluble crystals in the animals' kidneys. Sheep, especially, and other stock and wildlife are attracted to the plant in the fall and early winter,

when they are hungry for salt and forage. Snow and rain soften the hard stems of the plant and make it more palatable.

"Weed control, while vitally important, has depended on secondary benefits of range improvements in those areas where the ranchers themselves have so recognized the need that they have voluntarily contributed to range improvement funds," Mr. Clawson said. "Within its present budget, the Bureau is doing all it can to improve and rehabilitate the range."

The only hope for ranchers to avoid serious losses from Halogeton poisoning, the Director added, is for ranchers to learn to recognize the weed, avoid it while herding sheep, and to support a broad campaign of education, research and weed control.

Director Clawson states that the poisonous weed invades areas where the natural vegetative cover is sparse. "Look for Halogeton where fire, stock or vehicles have disturbed plant cover and given the seed a chance to germinate," he advises stockmen. "Check around rodent holes, ant hills, salting grounds, and where the range is heavily used and the soil is washed and gullied by erosion."

While spectacular cases of poisoning readily come to the attention of ranchers and the public, said Clawson, it is only now becoming generally known that Halogeton has a "time bomb" effect. Cumulative

(Continued on page 42)

This Month's Quiz:

What have You Found to be the most Essential Factors in Keeping Your Flock Healthy?

KEEP the sheep on good feed (grazing I mean) and move them often. Don't stay over four days in one place. Don't over-graze your range and if you see you have too many sheep on the range, cut them down to fit. Don't use any kind of supplemental feed unless you absolutely have to. I use mineralized salt. In eradicating ticks I have found that using a duster on the sheep right out of the shearing pen is best. We have no specific problem at present.

*Lon J. Poston
Lander, Wyoming*

I keep good, clean water, salt, and change pastures as much as possible. I do not have any specific disease problem at the present time.

*C. E. Boyd
Sweetwater, Texas*

IN our locality disease is not too much of a problem. However, I believe in the following essentials: (1) Proper culling; (2) Essential minerals; (3) Proper feeding when necessary.

*Wm. C. Treat
Roswell, New Mexico*

I have found that rotation of pastures and plenty of succulent feed in winter time will keep disease down to a minimum. Our local wool growers' association has been controlling and eradicating all infectious and contagious diseases.

*Rudie Mick
St. Onge, South Dakota*

BEING able to run sheep on the range partly is a big help to us here. We are in a heavy snow belt and find that when snow prevents the sheep from getting out and rustling, the ewes do not appear nearly so well satisfied and do not do as well, mainly at lambing time. When sheep can get out and rustle for their feed, they eat very little hay and stay in better condition. Our one disease is "lunger" or whatever it is called. Our veterinarians tell us they don't know what it is, but do know it isn't TB.

*Ernest A. Chriske
Wilsall, Montana*

I believe that keeping sheep in strong thriving condition, so their resistance is high, is the greatest factor in keeping them healthy; it will also pay off in lamb and wool production.

Proper range practices also contribute to keeping sheep healthy and at the same time will maintain and increase forage production.

*J. Perry Olsen
Grand Junction, Colorado*

THE most essential factor for healthy flocks is to keep the flesh condition good at all times. A thin ewe is weak in resistance. It is also necessary to keep a clean environment—nothing thrives in manure and mud. Avoid association of flocks whenever possible with infected or contaminated sheep. Spray to eliminate parasites.

*Donald Prior
Yakima, Washington*

I keep my sheep out in an open corral with only wind breaks—no shed—and they do not have colds or snotty noses and there is no humping up and not coming to eat. I only keep them in a good shed during lambing time, at night or on cold days, which is the latter part of March and beginning of April.

*Leon Chagnon
Havre, Montana*

I am livestock farm advisor for Monterey County and feel I have an interest in all the sheep in this county. I am making the general recommendations for this section.

The most essential factor in keeping flocks healthy in this county is good nutrition. During the months from January to June the feed is good. Lambs come in December and January mostly and do fine with the ewes giving a lot of milk and the weather not too cold usually for this early lambing. There are some cases of colds and pneumonia, foot rot, and bluebag (Mastitis) but sheep seem to do well. It is the long pull through the dry summer and eating of dry feed that causes a depletion in vitamin A in many cases. The feeding of alfalfa meal or similar supplement is recommended.

Ticks are very bothersome and most flocks are not treated as often or as effectively as they should be. Some flocks are not sprayed or dipped for ticks at all.

There are a few cases of pregnant ewe disease and some sore mouth but most of the sore mouth has been found in ewes that have been shipped in.

All in all, this county has very little serious trouble with diseases in sheep. It used to be heavily stocked with sheep but in the past 25 years it has been going more and more into cattle production on the ranges.

*Joe Muir
Salinas, California*

I think the main things in keeping a flock healthy are: (1) to acquire a good herder who loves to see the animals do well and takes an interest in their well being; (2) to have a dog that is well behaved and more or less gentle when sent to turn the sheep; (3) change sheep often on bed ground; (4) bed away from camp when possible; (5) clip the wool from around the eyes of wool-blind sheep with a power clipper; (6) take out bucks at end of bucking season and all small lambs or weak ones, which saves the temper of the herder and also abuse of weak sheep; (7) take pride in your flock and really strive to build it better than any other; (8) select good bucks and cull your ewes.

*R. S. Potter
Casper, Wyoming*

TO keep my flock healthy, I dip, worm, feed plenty of salt and all minerals. I do not pay too much attention to the "grub" in the head: the main thing to pay attention to is grub in the belly. Keep plenty of grub of the right kind in the sheep and no one will have too much trouble. If it is a farm flock, try plenty of shade and water in summer, and shelter in the winter, and above all practice pasture rotation and your sheep will pay off.

*Martin G. Arnold
Lake City, California*

USE good feed; be sure water is good; give enough salt and choose a high spot for bed ground: these are some of
(Continued on page 28)

With MoorMan's you can "MINERALIZE" 10 EWES for *Only* 1¢ a Day!

ALL THE MINERALS YOUR EWES NEED...

for a bumper 1951 lamb crop!



Sheepmen know that when ewes are carrying and nursing lambs they need a correct combination of both base and trace minerals *more than at any other time*. That's why so many thousands now feed MoorMan's *complete* Minerals for Range Sheep.

This famous mineral supplement is ideal for pregnant and nursing ewes because it contains 13 *mineral ingredients*, all balanced in the correct proportion needed to:

1. Make and keep ewes thrifty.
2. Help produce strong, rugged lambs.
3. Reduce breeding, pregnancy and lambing troubles to a minimum.
4. Give a strong, rich milk flow.

5. Help get maximum feeding value out of all feed—even short winter range.

And, because MoorMan's Minerals for Range Sheep contains no "filler," it goes farther—it is so highly concentrated you can actually feed 10 ewes all they need for only about 1¢ a day.

MoorMan's comes in 3 forms for your easy feeding—handy-to-handle 50-lb. blocks... granular that "stays put"... and convenient 5-lb. blockettes. Available in carload or smaller amount; special guaranteed prices quoted on contracts for 50, 100, 500 or 1000 ton lots —1 year to complete contract. Ask your MoorMan Man for complete information, or write Moorman Mfg. Co., Dept. KI-2 Quincy, Ill.

Special Minerals for Alkali Areas. MoorMan's Special Range Minerals is designed for animals in alkali areas which get an abundance of salts or alkali salts in water or forage. Enriched with vegetable protein for palatability. Contains less salt. Preferred by ranchers in alkali areas where the animal's natural desire for essential minerals is often killed.



MoorMan's

(SINCE 1885)

Makers of Protein and Mineral Concentrates Farmers and Ranchers Need, But Cannot Raise or Process on Farm or Ranch

the essentials in keeping flocks healthy. I have had no serious loss. Dogs do more damage in this area than anything else; very few coyotes left. The Coyote Getter (cyanide gun) has helped a lot.

We have had good grass since November, best feed in last 20 years.

*Roy Armstrong
Durham, California*

I believe the most important factor in keeping my flock healthy is keeping them well fed, so they won't be in a run-down condition if they should come in contact with some disease. I am only running about 100 head of registered and purebred ewes at present and do not have any disease problem now. Did have a little trouble with sore mouth in my lambs two years ago. I vaccinated then and haven't had any trouble since.

*Morris Powell
Saratoga, Wyoming*

I believe sheep in this area are as free from disease as anywhere in the country. About the only thing I do to keep my flock healthy is to cull out in the fall every ewe, young or old, that is not apparently in perfect health. Then during the year I feed all the crushed salt they will eat along with bone meal and prepared salt containing trace minerals, of the value of which I'm not certain.

I clean the lambing sheds at the end of the lambing season and have them sprayed just before lambing starts the following season. My losses occur mainly from two or three diseases. The largest year-round loss usually results from lung disease, for which so far as I know nothing can be done. Each year I lose some ewes and have some ewes sink their lambs just before lambing. I used to think this was caused by the sheep eating loco weed, of which there is an abundance on my range. But lately I am not sure if the loss is from loco or pregnancy disease, the symptoms of which are exactly the same and so are the results: death of ewe and her lambs or just the lambs. Almost always the ewe affected is carrying two lambs.

Loss of lambs on feed in the fall from pulpy kidney disease is becoming more prevalent in this area. Vaccination of my lambs last fall cut my losses from then on to zero.

*Carlos L. Jones
Cedar City, Utah*

Merino Breeders Meet: Suggest Commercial Sheep Exhibits

CRITICAL SHORTAGE of Merino sheep as basic breeding stock for commercial sheep production, and inadequate domestic and world supply of wool at this time of acute need, set the theme for the 45th annual meeting of the American & Delaine Merino Record Association, held at the Southern Hotel, Columbus, Ohio, on January 11.

Finewool breeders across the Nation, depending more on the returns from sale of wool than do meat-type-sheep breeders, were all but "squeezed" out of business during the last war period through certain aspects of the then prevailing wool policy. Someone, somewhere, either didn't know or forgot that finewool stock is the foundation of commercial sheep production and, as a result, the United States all but lost its sheep and wool industry. Well toward twenty-five million sheep were eliminated. Not all of them were Merinos but most of them had 25 percent or more of finewool breeding in their make-up. The wool from such a number now would be sufficient to make a suit of clothes for every man and a dress for every woman of our population.

The past is past; the first step in rebuilding is to restore the finewool stock and, from that base, restore the sheep industry of the Nation as rapidly as possible. Fortunately, there were some long-sighted, persevering men who—knowing that a type of sheep like the Merino, which had stood the test of time for over 2000 years or more would come back—had kept their flocks. Offers of anywhere from \$1.15 to \$1.50 per pound, for wool, now justifies their faith. The scarcity of Merinos, though, is reflected by the fact that two or three breeders at the meeting were seeking to fill carload orders for registered ewes. At last report they had not succeeded. There are some scattered small lots of registered Merinos here and there, which may be bought, but even such small lots are far fewer than usual.

Another index of the trend is the number of requests which have come in from breeders who dropped registrations, but now seek to re-establish their flock on a registered basis. Ewes up to seven years old have been submitted. There are some flocks of outstanding merit too, on which the registrations have been allowed to lag too long or which were neglected. Considering this situation, and the requests, the association re-activated its long standing,

but recently unused, provisions for bringing such sheep into the records. This is not a loose program to gain number. There must be affidavit or other proof of purity of breeding and the sheep themselves and their production record will be subject to careful scrutiny by the Pedigree Committee and the Executive Board. If there is proof of pure breeding and also a good possibility of such sheep contributing genes for inheritance which will not lower the present high standard of germinal constitution of the breed, they are candidates for consideration.

President Krantz of Dover, Ohio, and the Secretary reported that the association, throughout its history, has now registered 342,735 purebred Merino sheep. Twenty-four hundred and twenty-four flocks have contributed this number. Registrations for 1950 are up about one third over the previous year. Four hundred and sixty-one transfers have been issued up to date on 1950 sales to registered flocks. Not many ewes have changed ownership this past year. The Secretary noted that registrations of 1950 lambs were principally for ewe lambs, with about 30 of these for each ram submitted. Ram registrations will come later when rams are sold as yearlings and each buyer indicates his need for the Certificate.

A new association bulletin, for use by those seeking information on Merino sheep, is being prepared by a committee under the chairmanship of Prof. L. A. "Larry" Kauffman, who is also chairman of the Executive Board. It is expected that this bulletin will be available sometime in April.

Another committee at work, consisting of Arthur Preston, Geo. W. Deeds, and Dale Strong, is reviewing fair classifications as they now stand. There was talk, too, of trying to institute some new features into the show-ring activity, which would reflect the use of Merino sheep in commercial sheep production. It isn't common knowledge, perhaps, but the practice of showing sheep was introduced by Merino breeders. In 1806 Elkanah Watson persuaded Colonel Humphrey and David Livingston to exhibit some Merino sheep at the Pittsfield, Massachusetts Fair, for the purpose of interesting neighboring farmers in better livestock. This single purpose for holding fairs still

(Continued on page 42)

January's Booming Wool Market

The General Price Ceiling Regulation issued on January 26th exempts raw wool, but covers products processed from it. Some of the aspects of that order and the resulting confusion are outlined in the digest of the order in this issue.

The New York Wool Exchange temporarily ceased its operation on January 29th; the manufacturers say they cannot operate under the ceiling; the wool trade is in a quandary, and from one or two reports received here, contracting has stopped largely at country points. J. B. Wilson, member of legislative committee for the National Wool Growers Association, has been in Washington since the middle of January and is watching the situation closely. The Association will endeavor to pass on through State Association officials any information on developments as soon as possible.

THE rapid rise in contract figures in the West during January is shown in the State reports below. No attempt is made here to describe the rampant markets in Australia and other foreign points. It suffices to say that increases have been spectacular and hard to follow. The recent report from Senator J. F. Guthrie will give you an idea of the situation there.

A big factor in the unprecedented upward swing, in the opinion of some market commentators, was the announcement early in the month by Mr. John Small, chairman of the Munitions Board, that his group was making plans for a large stockpile of wool. While no official statement was released on the size of their contemplated stockpile, rumors said that they wanted as much as 350 million pounds of clean wool by the middle of 1952. This, of course, must not be confused with the 100 million pounds of wool and fabric, the purchase of which has been authorized as a war reserve. Those who have studied the matter say the difference between the "reserve" and "stockpile" is slight and rather vague. The stockpile, as we understand it, could not be drawn upon except in times of war and only when available supplies for both civilian and war needs were below minimum requirements. The object of the "reserve" is to insure the Armed Services an immediately available

supply of wool should war break out. Only about ten percent of the 30 million pounds of clean wool which the Commodity Credit Corporation is currently buying as part of the war reserve has been secured, according to reliable information.

Whether or not the announcement of the stockpile plan was the cause of the tremendous advance in wool prices at foreign

auctions, it now seems that the British and Dominion governments are beginning to realize that something should be done to prevent the scramble for the scant wool supplies. You will remember that the suggestion made last fall of allocating the wool between the various nations was considered very much out of line. Recent reports from Bradford indicate they are fearful of not

Champion Fleece at International



W. J. Hampton, sheep foreman for the University of Illinois flock, left, discusses qualities of grand champion fleece at International Livestock Exposition in Chicago with Bob Willerton, 17-year-old College of Agriculture freshman from Danvers, Illinois. This fleece from the University of Illinois' Rambouillet herd sire was named the grand champion fleece over both purebred and commercial class entries from 134 fleeces out of 13 breeds represented. It was first selected the best of its breed class, then the top of all purebred entries and finally the grand champion fleece of all purebred and commercial entries.

being able to get sufficient wool at prices they can afford to pay to keep their textile manufacturing business going and there have been repeated statements by Dominion growers that they too are fearful of the repercussions from the current wool market. While opinions are changing in this regard it is not expected that there will be any great departure from existing marketing methods during the current auction season. Meanwhile, some market reporters express the opinion that perhaps the attempt to control prices here may curtail the world wool market to some extent.

Wool news coming from State association secretaries and other reliable sources at the last of the month is as follows:

ARIZONA

The last two contracts made were at \$1.05 and \$1.10; only two clips left, both being shorn the last week of January.

CALIFORNIA

Little contracting reported; most of the clip apparently has already been signed up. One clip in the Sacramento Valley was contracted around the middle of the month at \$1.25%. Later \$1.48 for 12-months' and \$1.42% for 8-months' wool was paid in that area.

COLORADO

The first ten days of January saw a tremendous amount of trading with the general price going from about \$1 at the first of the month to as high as \$1.28 for a choice Western Slope clip paid recently. Various estimates of the volume of the current year's Colorado clip now under contract run from 65 to as high as 80 percent. The bulk of the wools, it is thought, were contracted between 95 cents and \$1.05 on Eastern Slope and \$1.05 to \$1.15 on the Western Slope. The tail end of the Craig pool (some 40,000 fleeces) is reported contracted at \$1.27. There have been reports of eastern Colorado and Kansas wools being contracted on a clean basis and of one sale of Eastern Slope wool at \$1.18, which is about a dime higher than the average Eastern Slope sale.

IDAHO

On January 27th it was estimated that only from three to four percent of the 1951 clip was yet to be contracted. High sale up to that time was \$1.41 1/8 given for the Salmon wool pool on January 26th.

The Parma wool pool was reported taken around the middle of January at \$1.21 1/4 and another individual clip at \$1.25. The greater part of Idaho's wool was sold prior to the end of 1950, mostly below \$1.

MONTANA

The Beaverhead wool pool of 4,300 fleeces was contracted on January 28th at \$1.38%. During the month a small clip brought \$1.35 in the Miles City area; \$1.32 was paid for 9,200 fleeces around Chinook and \$1.30% for a Harlowton clip. Other clips were contracted at prices ranging from \$1.25 down to \$1.10 (five at \$1.15).

NEVADA

All wool in western Nevada is reported contracted. The contracting started early at about 72 cents and ended the third week of January at \$1.14 5/8. No report has been received on eastern Nevada; it is believed there may be some wool left there.

OREGON

The Wool Market Review, prepared by the Oregon State College, for the week ending January 25th, said that heavy shrinking wool in that State had sold at \$1.05 while reputation clips topped at \$1.45 in the grease. On January 26th 1300 fleeces were contracted at \$1.30%. It is estimated that 90 percent of the Oregon wool was contracted at that date.

SOUTH DAKOTA

During the third week of January \$1.40 being paid for wool at Belle Fourche. One offer for \$1.50 and another for \$1.51 were made for clips at Newell the fourth week but did not result in sales. The wools in this area will not be shorn until June 15th.

TEXAS

High contract price up to January 25th was \$1.50 on 5,250 fleeces of Rambouillet yearling and lambs wool. Contracts on 12 months' wool were made that week from \$1.05 to \$1.45 including one at \$1.35%, one at \$1.37% and one at \$1.45. Mohair sales were reported as high as \$1.75 for adult hair and \$2.25 for kid.

UTAH

About 100,000 pounds of northern Utah wool was contracted for \$1.40 per pound

late in January; another 200,000 pounds at \$1.35 and a few clips at \$1.30. These transactions were reported for the week ending January 26th. The last week offers of \$1.45 and \$1.50 were refused, it is reported.

WASHINGTON

About 4,000 fleeces were reported contracted at \$1.20 during the week ending January 26th. The last week \$1.25 was paid for one lot of 1200 fleeces and several contracts were made at \$1.15 to \$1.20. Clips having a good percentage of fine and half blood wool are bringing 5 to 10 cents more than those with mostly coarse wools. Approximately 75 to 80 percent of the range wool clips have been contracted.

WYOMING

During the early part of January some clips were contracted at Douglas at \$1.15. Since that time \$1.19 has been refused in some cases and accepted in others in the Buffalo area, and recently \$1.25 was refused in that same area. At the month's end it was estimated that nearly 75 percent of the Wyoming clip had been contracted, but about the time the sales price regulation was issued, activity ceased.

The Australian Wool Market

By Senator J. F. Guthrie

January 22, 1951

THE Australian wool market thus far in January is on the average 25 percent higher than in December; comebacks and crossbreds, in fact, 35 percent higher.

The nine million pounds, greasy wool sold by auction at Geelong last week averaged \$1.95 a pound, grease basis. It was, of course, super wool. Pure greasy Corriedale wool made over \$2.00 a pound.

There is a world-wide feverish demand for wool—the world's requirements exceeding annual production by 15 percent. All countries are buying: Britain, U.S.A., Continent of Europe, Australia and Japan; Russia has secured very little.

Even realizing that practically all commodities are booming, I am rather afraid of present wool values, though I must admit the statistical position warrants them, and the growers deserve them, as for many years they were producing wool at or below cost, and, after all, there are only 7 pounds of greasy wool in an all-wool suit of clothes.

The National Wool Grower

The wool boom has, naturally, put up the price of all sheep, and they are now probably at a price that will make it difficult to place young Corriedale or cross-bred sheep on board steamers for the U.S.A. at less than \$20 a head.

World consumption of fibers during the past statistical year is: Cotton, 73 percent; nylon, 14 percent; clean wool, 12½ percent; silk, ½ percent.

Australian Growers Fear Market Crash

AUSTRALIA'S New Year started with a bang as world wool price records were made and smashed, with buyers from wool hungry countries all over the globe scrambling to buy superfine Merino fleeces before values went still higher. Stronger American buying was a big factor in raising prices to "unbelievable" heights.

Buying reached its peak at Geelong, Victoria, on January 16th when the following world records for greasy wool were made:

\$3.78 a pound for two bales of Merino lambs' wool from Major Philip Russell, who belongs to a well-known pioneering family.

\$2.88 a pound for Merino fleece from Mr. J. H. Giffin in Victoria's Western District. This record was eclipsed by three cents a pound at Albury, New South Wales, a day later.

\$2.27 a pound for comeback fleece from Bayard and Sons, north east of Geelong.

\$2.16 a pound for Major Russell's comeback lambs' wool. More than five million dollars was paid for the 8500 bales of wool offered at the sale which lasted four hours.

These high prices have made the legend of the Golden Fleece come true in Victoria's rich Western District. In one small town:

A garage has so many orders for Australian-made Holden cars that it would take eight years to catch up.

A bank made an advance of \$22,400 for a landowner to pay off in 10 years. He paid it off in two.

A grazier sold 2587 shorn sheep for \$26,000.

Wool from 800 sheep brought a check worth \$8,000 to a soldier settler.

But this prosperity has not brought security to wool growers and economists, who fear a crash in the market. World record-holder Russell says he would prefer stable prices to world records.

He says, "I don't like this trend. Prices will have to come down and when they

do, it will be with a bump. Anyway, who is really benefiting from these soaring prices? Not the farmer. It's the Taxation Commissioner."

A World War I soldier who saw prices slump in the 1920's comments now, "I'm frightened."

Although really thrilled by the prices, sheepmen are even happier by a report that mosquitoes are spreading a deadly virus disease among rabbits along the Murray River. It is too soon to be certain whether the disease will spread far from the water courses where mosquitoes live but stockowners have renewed hope that they will be released from their worst enemy—the rabbit.

Five years ago, Australian shearers were happy to clip sheep for about \$3.50 a 100 and live in temporary quarters. Now they want about \$12 a 100 sheep plus refrigerators, hot water systems and washing machines in their huts. Their union's latest claim also includes radio sets in mess rooms, fireplaces in all dining rooms, and free transport to and from the nearest railroad station. They also want guaranteed pay of \$45 a week in wet weather. Despite their prosperity, sheepmen are asking wry-

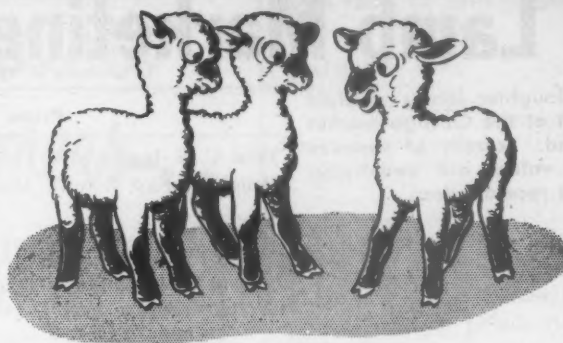
ly whether they will have to vacate their palatial homes and live in the sheds when the shearers come around.

Right now, Australian sheepmen are worried that grass fires will destroy their feed and wipe out their valuable flocks. February is a danger month for fires "Down Under" and an unusually hot summer has made all dry feed very inflammable.

There is still plenty of feed and water and these matters will not become serious unless February and March are drier and hotter than usual. On the other hand, wet conditions will increase the chance of damage from blowflies. So although Australian sheepmen have plenty of money, they are not relieved of their basic production worries.

World records have not been confined to Australia this month. New Zealand claims all time high prices at its Fielding Ram Fair, near Wellington, for a Romney Marsh and Southdown which sold for nearly \$7000 and \$3360 respectively.

—Colin Webb



... And Speaking of Wool Bags ...

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Strong, Fullweight, Always Dependable

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Lamb Marketing in January

At \$38.00, slaughter lambs reached an all-time high at the Chicago market on February 2nd. Scarcity of supplies and high pelt values are underlying factors in recent record prices.

A GAIN in January, as in December, a new record high price levels were established for fed woolled lambs. At least, that was the story during the first three weeks of January. Sharply higher wool prices resulted in increased pelt credits and this was the main reason for record prices. A continued higher price trend in the eastern dressed lamb market the first two weeks of January was another factor. However, a lower dressed lamb market the fourth week of January, coupled with anticipated price freezes, was a factor which halted the upward swing. In fact, slaughter lambs the fourth week of January closed materially lower at some points.

Good and choice woolled slaughter lambs sold during the first four weeks of January from \$31 to \$35.75. Several loads reached \$36 during the month. Medium and good woolled slaughter lambs sold at various markets during January mostly from \$29 to \$34.50. Good and choice fed lambs with No. 1 and fall-shorn pelts sold during the first four weeks of January mostly from \$28.50 to \$33, with a few reaching \$34.

Good and choice woolled slaughter ewes sold during the first four weeks of January mostly at \$15 to \$21.50 while cull to medium grades brought \$11 to \$18.

Good and choice feeder and shearing lambs sold from \$31 up to \$35.50. The latter price at Fort Worth was an all-time high for feeder lambs on that market. At Omaha 79 to 94-pound mixed fat and feeder lambs sold from \$34.25 to \$35.25 the fourth week of January.

Good and choice ewe lambs at the central markets sold on country account mostly at \$33 and \$34. At Denver some 100-pound whitefaced ewe lambs sold on breeder account the third week of January at \$40. Good short-term to solid-mouth breeding ewes sold during January at \$29 to \$36 per head.

As we go to press (January 29th), following prize freeze announcements, the slaughter lamb market is active and 25 cents to \$1.25 higher. At Chicago a deck of choice fed woolled lambs sold at \$36.50. A price of \$35.75 on the Denver market for good and choice 101- to 109-pound woolled Colorados is reported as a new all-

Prices and Slaughter This Year and Last

Total U. S. Inspected	1950	1949
Slaughter, First Twelve Months.....	11,739,343	12,136,478
Week Ended	Jan. 20, 1951	Jan. 21, 1950
Slaughter at 32 Centers	205,228	213,442
Chicago Average Lamb Prices (Wooled):		
Good and Choice	\$34.86	\$23.05
Medium and Good	33.18	22.15
New York Av. Western Dressed Lamb Prices:		
Choice, 40-45 pounds	54.80	48.20
Good, 40-45 pounds	53.80	45.50
Commercial, All Weights	50.50	42.00

Federally Inspected Slaughter—December

Cattle	1,109,693	1,064,340
Calves	445,262	510,536
Hogs	6,777,201	6,477,185
Sheep and Lambs	918,074	1,057,810

time high on that market. Good and choice woolled slaughter lambs cleared at most points on January 29th from \$33.50 to \$36.25.

COUNTRY SALES AND CONTRACTING January 1st to 15th

In the northern San Joaquin Valley of California a load of good Rambouillet-type slaughter lambs carrying No. 1 pelts and weighing 103 pounds sold for \$30. In northwestern Kansas 650 black and white-faced mixed Texas feeder lambs sold at \$29 with a three percent shrink. These lambs went to Nebraska feed lots. Several contracts were drawn in Utah and Idaho for slaughter lambs on feed, with numerous cars bringing \$31 to \$31.50 f.o.b. shipping point. Around 6000 to 7000 shorn fed lambs were reported changing hands in the south-central Washington area. Feeders were asking \$29 to \$30 and better on shorn lambs and \$32 and above on limited numbers of woolled lambs. One load of clipped lambs in the same area, No. 2 and 3 skins, were reported sold for immediate delivery at \$28.

January 16th to 31st

Three thousand ewe lambs in southwest Texas were contracted for spring delivery, out of the wool, at \$27.50. In the lower western part of the Sacramento Valley around a load of slaughter lambs brought \$31.50 and quite a few sales of Imperial Valley fed lambs have reached from \$31 to \$31.50, with unverified reports of \$32. Some sales for immediate delivery were made on fed shorn lambs at \$30 and \$31

in Washington and Oregon. In south-central Washington five cars of shorn lambs moved to west coast packers at \$30 and \$31. A contract was drawn on approximately 6000 head for delivery up to April to a western Washington packer at \$30, these lambs estimated to have No. 1 pelts.

About 1500 California spring lambs were contracted at \$32, delivery at grower's option up to May 1st. A few other contracts were drawn up at \$31. Several loads of southern Utah fed woolled lambs were contracted at \$34.10, with reports indicating a few loads above \$34.25. In south-central Washington a couple of cars of shorn lambs were sorted from a feed lot at \$31 for a western Washington packer account. Around 1000 head of two-year-old ewes with lambs, were contracted in the Heppner, Oregon, section at \$50 per pair, for June delivery. In Colorado around 1200 feeder lambs were contracted for fall delivery on the Western Slope at \$28. A few small bands of feeder lambs in the Rock Springs area totaling around 4500 head brought \$27.50 for fall delivery. In Kansas around 300 head of solid-mouth ewes for immediate delivery sold at \$32.50 per head. Delivery was in the field for shipment to Colorado to be fed and lambled. Aged breeding ewes in small numbers changed hands in western Montana at \$25 to \$33.65 per head and 2200 black-faced yearling ewes in the Fairfield area were contracted for July delivery after shearing time at \$35 per head. Near Big Timber 2500 mixed blackfaced lambs were contracted for fall delivery at \$31.

—E. E. Marsh

FROM Swift TO America's ranchers and farmers...

In 1950 Swift paid \$1,704,489,374 for livestock and other agricultural products

Meat packers get most of the raw material for their business from you. You get from meat packers approximately half of your annual income. Together, we play an important part in feeding America. As one factor in the livestock-meat industry, Swift shares in that vital task. On this page is a record of what we did during 1950. The figures at the right show a quick over-all picture. The figures below explain in greater detail.



77¢ out of the average sales dollar paid to producers

We provide a dependable year-round market for your livestock, dairy products, poultry, etc. These products of your business are the raw materials of ours. So it's only natural that by far the largest part of Swift's "sales dollar" is paid to you farmers and ranchers.

4% for Supplies



Last year, out of each dollar of sales, Swift spent an average of 4 5/10 cents, or a total of \$100,476,643 on supplies of all kinds—mountains of salt and sugar; trainloads of boxes, barrels, other containers; miles of twine; tons of paper; fuel, electricity, etc.

2 3/10¢ for Transportation



Swift's service helps bridge the 1,000-mile gap between producers of livestock and consumers of meat. To accomplish this necessary service Swift's freight and trucking bill in 1950 was \$51,598,238. This is an average of 2 3/10¢ of each sales dollar for moving your products to consuming markets.



We hope your farm and ranch operations resulted in favorable returns during 1950, and that the new year will even be better. A fair return to producers means better living and should result in a

11 1/2¢ to Employees

It takes skilled people to process your livestock and other raw agricultural products into Swift's quality foods. In 1950 Swift's 76,000 employees earned \$245,238,539 in wages and salaries, or an average of 11 1/10 cents out of each dollar of Swift sales.



1¢ for Taxes

In addition to federal taxes, Swift & Company paid taxes during 1950 in all states and in many municipalities. Our total tax bill was \$21,101,712. This averaged 1 cent out of each dollar Swift received for the products it sold.



3 4/10¢ for Other Expenses



Among other necessary business costs are depreciation, interest, employee benefits, sales promotion, rent, research, insurance, development of new products, advertising, stationery, postage, telephone, telegraph, travel expenses, etc. These necessary expenses took an average of 3 4/10 cents of each sales dollar.

Quick Facts on Swift's Business in 1950

Total SALES of all Swift's products and by-products in 1950 added up to \$2,214,819,268
Swift paid for livestock and other agricultural products 1,704,489,374
Swift's total NET EARNINGS amounted to 16,142,586*

That is an average net earning per dollar of sales of 7/10¢
Here's where the other 99 3/10 cents of that "sales dollar" went:
For livestock and other agricultural products 77¢
For employees' wages and salaries 11 1/10¢
For supplies 4 5/10¢
For transportation (freight, trucking, etc.) 2 3/10¢
For taxes 1¢
For other necessary business expenses 3 4/10¢
Total 100 cents

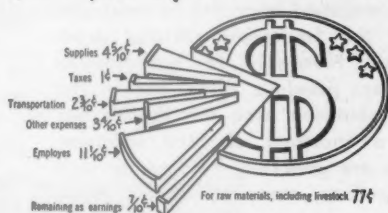
*This amounts to 2/10 of a cent per pound on all products handled.

2/10¢ as Earnings



After all those necessary expenditures, our 1950 net earnings were \$16,142,586. Our shareholders received \$13,917,161 of this in dividends. This is their return on the investments made by them and on the earnings from these investments which have been retained in the company to provide the plants and facilities—the tools needed to handle your products.

Here's a picture of Our 1950 Sales Dollar



Swift & Company's net earnings are small for the many essential services in the processing and marketing of the agricultural products you produce. Our earnings averaged a fraction of a cent a pound on the volume handled.

sound production program on farms and ranches. A fair return to people who are in business in cities and towns helps maintain purchasing power and markets for the products you and Swift have to sell.

Wm. W. Wray Vice President and Treasurer

Swift & Company UNION STOCK YARDS
CHICAGO 9, ILLINOIS
Nutrition is our business—and yours

AROUND the RANGE COUNTRY

Around the Range Country gives our readers a chance to express their opinions about anything pertaining to the industry or about life in general. In offering this space for free expression of thought, the National Wool Grower assumes no responsibility for any statement made.

★ ★ ★ ★

Very heavy cold waves swept over most of the country the latter part of the week ending January 30th, following a period of mild temperatures. Sub-zero temperatures extended even into Texas. The lowest points were reached in Montana, with -55° at West Yellowstone. Snowfall was heavy in the northern Rockies and many sections of the North Central States, and drifting left roads blocked in many sections. Snow fell in most sections of the Southern States, except in the extreme Southeast, leaving a cover of an inch or more in a belt extending from northeastern Texas to central Tennessee.

Pastures and ranges continued to make good growth in the middle and northern Pacific coastal regions, with livestock still on open pastures in many sections. The severe weather and snow-covered ranges in the Northern Border and Rocky Mountain States necessitated considerable supplemental feeding. Ranges continued very dry in most sections of the Southwest. Winter grass responded favorably in northeastern Texas from previous rains, but in the extreme southern area the drouth has caused a shortage of feed supplies. Livestock are generally holding up well in all sections, some shrinkage, however, was noted in Wyoming. Winter pastures are affording limited grazing from Arkansas and Louisiana eastward. Some improvement was noted in pastures in the South Atlantic States, but growth has been slow due to the cold weather.—U. S. Weather Report

(A report from Ft. Worth, Texas, on February 2nd, says that unconfirmed reports indicate considerable death loss of short-haired cattle in South Texas from the severe weather, but that cattle in West Texas stood the storm well, while some lambs were lost.)

CALIFORNIA

Lake City, Modoc County

January 23, 1951

Up until now forage on the winter range has been just like spring feed, but we have had snow the last ten days which has covered it. During the winter I use molasses which usually costs me \$24 but the price has now jumped to \$60. We can get alfalfa hay in the stack for \$16.

All sheep are in very good condition with no unusual sheep losses. While I wasn't here last year to compare, I understand some of the larger bands are carrying over 30 percent of their ewe lambs. I, however, am holding over 100 percent of my ewe lambs this year. From my observation I would say that about the same number of ewes were bred this season as last. I am sold out a year ahead of time on rams. I never knew the demand to be so strong for whiteface woolled rams. Most of my rams went East along with a lot of old western range ewes to start someone up in the sheep business. I have not heard of any recent sales of yearling ewes.

In an effort to increase sheep numbers they have formed a grazing association to meet with the different Government departments to try to keep public grazing areas open, which the Government has been closing for recreation.

I find that the operating costs in each of the past three years have been higher than in 1947. My most vexing problem is trying to secure a stock underpass to keep from crossing my sheep over a highway to my pasture. To me the herder situation seems to be all right as the herders are getting big pay.—Martin G. Arnold

Salinas, Monterey County

January 17, 1951

Forage on the winter range is excellent and while we have had rain and cold weather the last few weeks it has not affected feed conditions seriously.

I have fed some cottonseed cake, costing me \$110 a ton, and hay, which in this area is about \$20 a ton in the stack.

Sheep flocks in very good condition; no

unusual losses. We are carrying over about 25 percent more ewe lambs this year and the number of ewes bred is up 15 percent.

There has been some contracting of wool at 81.5 cents for one-half and three-eighths blood.

Many farmers in this area are trying to establish farm flocks. We have some 7,000 sheep in this county and all in small bands with none over 500 head; no range bands.

I found operation costs higher in 1950 than in 1949 and 1948. The herder situation in this area is not serious; our most vexing problems are lack of breeding stock, dogs, lack of sheep organization activity locally.

—Joe Muir

Fresno, Fresno County

January 17, 1951

Our California weather has been the best in eight years; hardly any frost to speak of.

Nearly all of the San Joaquin Valley sheepmen are through lambing. Most of them are lambing on alfalfa and some have moved to grain fields because early grains grew so fast they had to feed them to the sheep.

I feel sure that we are going to have a nice wet spring.

Some ewe lambs are still coming from Texas, priced at 34 cents in the wool. There are quite a few yearlings in the valley this year.

It looks to me as though the sheep business is coming back in California. Let's hope we can raise our percentage. It looks as if we're going to have very nice spring lambs. We have had a few butchers around already.

—Bert Irola

Durham, Butte County

January 21, 1951

Sheep flocks are above average. Due to the wet weather the past few weeks, the grass is doing fine. We usually use corn during the winter, but no extra feeding has been necessary so far this year. There's been no activity in wool recently, but in December some sold at 75 to 82 cents.

(Continued on page 36)



GRASSLAND "HUSBANDRY" on the Boddy Ranch

When Macon Boddy, U. S. Marine, returned from World War II, he joined his father, Philo Boddy, in a long term conservation program for their 9,000-acre Clay County, Texas, cattle ranch near Henrietta, which has been a family ranch since 1898.

"With the cooperation of the Soil Conservation Service, we started our program in 1946," said Macon, "and through rotation and deferred grazing, proper stocking and brush control, we are getting our range back to its good native condition."

Under a general stocking program, the cattle eat out all of the best grasses first and allow the poorer ones to increase. Under a rotated program, cattle are crowded up in the early spring to eat the young weedy growth—then the cattle are shifted to other range to let the good grasses make seed.

"With this program, every time we get rid of a poor plant, good grass such as buffalograss or little bluestem replaces it."

"By other conservation practices such as terracing, planting of legumes and fertilizing, we will soon retire about 400 acres of old fields to pasture, producing all our feed requirements on the remaining 400 acres of crop land."

"As the quality and quantity of our grass improves, the

percentage of calf crop and calf quality increase until this year we had a 90% calf crop, averaging 430 lbs. at weaning. That is about a 50-pound increase."

All of the Boddy Ranch calves are shipped in the fall to their Arkansas Red River Bottom farm of 1,500 acres, where they are matured to feeders weighing 600 to 800 pounds.

Macon spoke with enthusiasm when he told of their long range plan: "Our advanced program is to complete the ranching operation by eventually feeding cattle with grain on seeded legume pastures for the production of quality beef."

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Liquidation is continuing here with most of our sheep range being used by cattle. Roaming dogs are giving us a lot of trouble. They do more damage than coyotes, as the latter are being controlled.

—R. J. Armstrong

COLORADO

Grand Junction, Mesa County January 23, 1951

Forage on the winter range is fair and poor, depending on the amount of rain-fall in late summer and fall of 1950. The weather has been good for this season. Sheep flocks are in very good condition, due to favorable weather and supplemental feeding. We have been feeding corn at \$70 per ton; 41 percent cottonseed cake at \$97.50 per ton. About 50 percent more ewe lambs were carried over this fall and about the same number of ewes bred this season as last. In the Grand Junction area \$1.29 per pound was paid for wool recently. There have been no sales of yearling ewes in this section.

Disregarding high feed program due to hard winter 1948-49, I would say 1950 operating costs were from 10 to 15 percent over those of 1949. Sheep numbers remain pretty even here; no available range to increase numbers and no liquidation.

Our most vexing problem is inefficiency of herders and campmovers, due largely to lack of proper training and education for

all phases of their work. They do not have a standard rating, for which sheepmen are largely responsible.

—J. Perry Olsen

MONTANA

Havre, Hill County January 19, 1951

My flock is in very good condition. I have lost only one out of 250 head so far this winter. We have been having good weather the last few weeks and feed conditions are not bad. I use alfalfa and screenings all during the winter; alfalfa hay in the stack is \$20 a ton.

I have not heard of any recent contracting of wool or sales of yearling ewes. Operating costs were higher in 1950 than in previous years. No efforts are being made here to increase sheep numbers. As I pasture my sheep I do not have a herder problem.

—Leon Chagnon

Wilsall, Park County January 23, 1951

We have had so much wind the last few weeks that it has blown our feed off, but up to the present time the winter forage has been good. We've been feeding 1/3 pound of cake per head per day. We use 20 percent molasses cake which costs us \$78 per ton. I believe sheep numbers are about holding their own. Some small flocks are being built up; also more ewe

lambs were kept over last year. There have been no recent sales of yearling ewes. The last sale of fine wool yearling ewes was at \$35 per head. Wool has been contracted here recently at \$1 to \$1.10. Production costs have been considerably higher this year than in the past two years. Coyotes seem to be coming back again. We attribute this to the fact that 1080 was used two or three years ago but not last fall, so the animals are drifting back again.

—Ernest A. Chriske

NEW MEXICO

Lovington, Lea County January 22, 1951

Sheep numbers appear to be increasing here with flocks in good condition and no unusual losses sustained. Forage on the winter range is fair. I have been feeding 22 percent grain cubes this winter which cost me \$76. We can get alfalfa hay at around \$40 a ton.

The number of lambs carried over and the number of ewes bred are about the same as last year. There has been no recent contracting of wool or sales of yearling ewes in this area that I know of.

I find that operation costs were about the same in 1950 as in 1949 but less than in 1948. We do not have a herder problem here as the country is all fenced.

—Junious Tulk

Roswell, Chaves County January 22, 1951

Sheep are in very good condition from all reports, with some feeding being done. Winter forage is the best in a number of years, only dry and blowing. I've been feeding some cake that cost \$77 a ton early in the season. Fewer ewe lambs were kept last fall; about same number of ewes bred.

The last figure I heard of being paid for wool in this section was \$1.05. Yearling ewes have sold recently at \$35.

Operating costs the past year were about the same as in the previous two years, except that feed was higher. Because prices are good, I think some sheepmen are holding on to their ewe lambs.

—C. A. Buchanan

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Roswell, Chaves County

January 23, 1951

I believe more operators are holding out more ewe lambs in an effort to increase their flocks, and if enough moisture is received this increase will continue upward. At present, winter feed is excellent, that is there is plenty of grass but it is very dry. In fact we've had very dry weather for some time past now and need moisture badly. Have had to do some supplemental feeding, consisting of pellets made of grain, hay and molasses at about \$75 a ton. Alfalfa hay is \$35 to \$40 a ton. Although wool and lamb prices are high all other prices are rising too, including taxes, so where do we balance off? It cost us about 20 percent more to operate during 1950 than in either 1948 or 1949. Help is scarce, more so than in 1949.

—Wm. C. Treat

SOUTH DAKOTA

St. Onge, Lawrence County

January 24, 1951

Sheep are on the increase here at present, with more than two thirds of the ewe lambs held last fall. Predatory animals and thefts are also on the increase and we have insufficient help. Flocks are in good condition and the feed is exceptionally good. Due to the open winter no supplemental feeding has been necessary up to the present time. However, we have on hand 41 percent protein cubes purchased at about \$85 a ton; baled hay is \$25 to \$30 a ton. I heard of one wool sale at Belle Fourche at \$1.27½ and also a sale of some crossbred whiteface yearling ewes at \$35 a head. It cost us 10 percent more to run our sheep in 1950 than in 1949 and 20 percent more than in 1948.

—Rudie Mick

TEXAS

Sweetwater, Nolan County

January 24, 1951

Winter forage is fair, but dry, which has made supplemental feeding necessary although we've had good weather. We use a meal mixture priced at \$65 a ton. Alfalfa hay is \$50 a ton. A few ranchers are trying to increase their sheep numbers. Operating costs in 1950 were considerably higher than in the previous two years. We are having some trouble with bitterweed.

—C. E. Boyd



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February, 1951

37

UTAH

Cedar City, Iron County
January 19, 1951

Winter range feed is very short this year although the sage brush has some life in it. We've had a light snow in some areas and mild weather in others. This has made the feed beneficial for stock, and sheep flocks, surprisingly enough, are in very good condition with light losses. I have done some supplemental feeding of corn this winter at \$3.90 per bag. Alfalfa hay is from \$25 to \$30 baled. I fed out my own lambs this winter.

I would say that from 5 to 10 percent more ewe lambs were carried over this fall in comparison with last year and about 6 percent more ewes were bred. Some wool clips sold at \$1; others going at \$1.10, \$1.11 and \$1.15.

Operating costs were about the same in 1950 as in 1949 but higher the last half of 1950 than in 1949. Liquidation has stopped in this area; a few more ewe lambs and old ewes were kept in herds this fall. The herder situation is the same as it has been for the past three years. We have a serious problem, however, in the present

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drouth condition and heavy grasshopper infestation on the summer range.

—C. L. Jones

Castle Dale, Emery County
January 4, 1951

Lack of moisture has made forage on the winter range dry and poor. Water is so scarce most sheepmen are hauling it. Sheep flocks are in fair condition, though, because of the warm weather. We have had no winter up to this date. I feed corn during the winter which is costing me \$3.70 per 100 pounds; the going price of alfalfa hay in the stack is \$20 a ton.

A few more ewe lambs were kept last fall, while the number of ewes bred is short compared with last year. There have been some transactions in wool at from 75 cents to \$1, and recently \$34 was paid for yearling ewes.

In effort to increase sheep numbers, we are keeping more ewe lambs. We have plenty of herders in this section.

I wish to thank the Predatory Animal Control Board for the fine work they have accomplished in this district. One flock of sheep has been on the range for the past two months without a camp. They have been herded in pickups from the owner's residence in Castle Dale, ranging from 15 to 20 miles from town.

—Ray Jensen

WASHINGTON

Yakima, Yakima County
January 19, 1951

In order to increase sheep flocks, efforts are being made to buy ewe lambs, but they're hard to find. We're also having trouble in finding suitable ranges for our flocks.

Winter range feed is excellent and so are the sheep. The weather has been very mild and no feeding necessary, although if or when necessary, I'll feed pea cubes (\$62). Alfalfa in the stack is \$23 to \$25 a ton.

Only about half as many ewe lambs were carried over this fall as last, but I think breeding bands are about the same size as a year ago. From 85 cents to \$1 and up has been paid for 1951 wools. Operating costs during 1950 were about the same as in 1949 but possibly 10 to 15 percent higher than in 1948.

—Donald Prior

WYOMING

Lander, Fremont County
January 26, 1951

We've been having perfect weather and as a result of the open winter and excellent winter feed our flocks are in top condition. It has not been necessary to do any extra feeding. Alfalfa hay can be purchased at \$20 to \$25 in the stack. Wool has been selling around here from \$1.05 to \$1.10 and I understand that one outfit sold their wool for \$1.25. Some crossbred yearling ewes recently sold at \$32 a head. Some of the farmers are increasing their flocks, but there will be no increase in range sheep numbers, although more ewe lambs were held back for replacement. There is too much Government interference on use of grazing lands.

—Lon J. Poston

Rawlins, Carbon County
January 24, 1951

We are having a beautiful winter here and sheep are surely doing well, though we did just crawl out from under sixteen inches of snow the first of the week. It all blew up and is now piled behind the sage brush.

—Kleber H. Hadsell

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Saratoga, Carbon County
January 22, 1951

Sheep are in fine shape. Feed has been good; at present it's nearly covered with snow. Previous to a week ago the weather was warm and dry, and then we had 12 inches of snow and wind. Haven't had to do any supplemental feeding yet. Alfalfa is \$18 in the stack and corn and barley, the concentrates we use when necessary, cost us \$60 and \$50 a ton, respectively.

We carried over about 10 percent more ewe lambs this year than last and slightly more ewes were bred. I think, too, more old ewes were kept than usual.

I've heard of one clip of wool from 300 head of old ewes being contracted recently at \$1 a pound.

It cost us about the same to operate last year as in 1949, but not so much as in 1948 when we had such a severe winter.

—Morris Powell

Casper, Natrona County
January 19, 1951

Sheep flocks are in excellent condition; I've lost only five so far this winter. Winter forage is good but due to lack of snow is being consumed faster than if there were some snow to protect camps for later feeding. The weather has been windy with moderate temperatures and it is making the sheep feel unsettled. Baled alfalfa is priced at \$34 to \$36 a ton. I kept more ewe lambs for replacements and also bred more ewes this season. Sheep are selling at \$42 and up per head, all ages, regardless of grade of wool. Some demand for ewes is coming from other States and high offers are being made to those who have ewe lambs or are selling out. Today \$1.10 was paid for wool with a 72 percent shrink.

The income tax, in my opinion, is the big stumbling block to expansion or increasing sheep numbers. With such high taxes, it is hardly possible to build your business into a profitable one. A man is more or less afraid to invest because if a loss in sheep occurs, it would mean failure and being in debt the rest of his life. If a person had a chance to pay his debts, with smaller income taxes, there might be some inducement to expand. Production costs the past year, because of high lease rates, hay, food, etc., were considerably higher than in 1949 or '48.

—R. S. Potter

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KANSAS CITY, MO.

Winter in Idaho

AS this written on January 26th we have had the best fall and winter in Idaho for many, many years. Since the first of November we have had more moisture in south central Idaho than for ten years. Rain or snow every few days and not a drop of run off. But range lands were very dry, so much so that it seemed they could never be wet again. Everywhere the grass is green under the snow ready for the lambs next March.

Already lambing is under way and conditions are very favorable. The ewes are in fine condition and the lambing should be over 100 percent. Feed is plentiful and fairly cheap. Baled hay sold at around \$18 and loose hay as low as \$16. Barley was laid in at \$2 and oats at \$2.25.

Our wool clip looks up to average but may be of lighter shrink. Nearly all of our wool was contracted on the sheep. Prices started at 70 cents and are now up to \$1.25. I should feel bad about the low price much of this wool sold at only for the fact that most of the difference will be in the income tax. Idaho has no intention of changing the grade of its wool. The average clip runs about 60 percent three-

eighths, 25 percent quarter blood with a little one-half blood for good measure. My own experience in years gone by was that the ewe that sheared the quarter blood wool made the most money. She sheared more pounds of lighter shrink and raised more and heavier lambs. However, first-cross ewes of that kind are a thing of the past, for the Lincoln ram has followed the work horse to other lands.

The Secretary's editorial in the last Wool Grower on Mr. Hoover's speech was greatly appreciated.

—S. W. McClure

Shearing Schools

E. A. Warner, livestock specialist for Sunbeam Corporation, who has done so much for the advancement of shearing in this country, has announced the following dates for sheep shearing schools in the West.

Nevada—February 15, 16 and 17.

California—February 19th through March 3rd.

(Mr. Jack Wilson of the California Wool Growers Association is cooperating with Mr. Warner.)

Oregon—March 5th through 10th.

(Oregon schools are under the direction of Cal G. Monroe, State 4-H Club Leader and John Lander, Assistant Extension Animal Husbandman, Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oregon.)

Washington—March 12th through 17th.

(Schools here are being arranged by Mr. Charley R. Kyd, Extension Animal Husbandman, Washington State College, Pullman, Washington.)

Idaho—March 19th through 24th.

(In Idaho nearly everyone works on the shearing schools, including E. F. Rinehart, Extension Animal Husbandman; M. C. Claar, Secretary, Idaho Wool Growers Association, and C. W. Hickman, Head, Animal Husbandry Department, University of Idaho.)



THE Auxiliaries



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Texas Auxiliary Makes Promotion Plans

MRS. R. L. Walker of Fort Stockton, president of the Women's Auxiliary of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association, called a special advisory board meeting in San Angelo, January 23rd. Purpose of the meeting was to discuss and formulate plans for the 1951 wool promotion project.

Mrs. W. B. Wilson of San Angelo, first vice president of the organization and chairman of the wool promotion committee, was delegated to make, with her committee, as many areas as they deemed necessary for this year's "Make It Yourself

With Wool" home sewing contest. Plans that the committee will make are to be presented at the Quarterly Directors' meeting in Bandera, March 10.

Mrs. J. W. Vance of Coleman, newly elected president of the Women's Auxiliary of the National Wool Growers, reported the views of other States in regard to the national sewing contest.

Mrs. Sayers Farmer of Junction told of Hill Country plans for a Wool and Mohair Festival to be held in the fall.

Present for the meeting, which was held in the Art Room of the Hotel Cactus, were Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Frank Fulk, Mrs. Marsh Lea and Mrs. Clayton Puckett of Fort Stockton; Mrs. Leo Richardson of Iraan; Mrs. Walter Pfluger of Eden; Mrs. Vance and Mrs. Henry Newman of Coleman; Mrs. Farmer of Junction; and Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. H. C. Noelke, Sr., Mrs. Ernest Williams and Miss Sue Flanagan of San Angelo.

"Why I Like to Sew With Wool"

By LORRAINE HULET
 Moscow, Idaho
 Winner in Wool Bureau's 1950 Essay Contest

IF there is such a thing as an "ideal fabric" for home sewers, I feel sure that materials made of wool should be thus classified. From the dozens of different weaves, the sewer can select a piece of wool fabric suitable to the garment being made. And because it is wool, she can expect certain desirable traits from it.

Wool fabric is ideal for construction purposes because it can be molded and shaped to fit the body curves. Whether it be of woolen or worsted yarns, and whether it be any of the numerous weaves, a piece of wool fabric can be shaped more easily than material of any other fiber.

Wool Stands Test in All Weather

I like to sew with wool not only for the way it handles during construction, but because of the performance I can expect from the finished garment. All-wool clothes are more comfortable. Whether you're sitting, standing, running, jumping, or

stretching, an all-wool garment has the ability to "stretch and regain" and acts almost like a second skin. Wool stands the test of daily wear—winter's snow, cold, rain and wind, or summer's sun, heat and humidity. It holds up under friction, perspiration, and the cleaning chemicals of dry cleaning. It requires less cleaning and pressing than other fabrics. In fact, wrinkles "hang out" overnight.

When you buy wool, you find another of its advantages. Due to the Wool Products Labeling Act, the consumer is protected from the unrevealed presence of substitutes and mixtures in wool fabrics. The law requires that the wool be classified and the fiber content designated on a label which must be firmly attached to the fabric.

For ease of construction, performance, and economy, I like to sew with wool.

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Utah—Mrs. Sterling M. Ercanbrack, Provo, Utah
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Report of Utah's annual meeting will appear in the March issue.

"CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN!"

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Mrs. Neil Imes, 1834 So. Cedar, Casper, Wyo.

Public Land Grazing

(Continued from page 21)

about 35,000 units of production. That is why the National Grazing Council, representing 20,000 permittees using land under the control of the Bureau of Land Management, undertook a study of the matter.

To this end, last April, that body invited the American National Cattlemen's Association and the National Wool Growers Association, both of whom represent the respective State organizations of the region, to cooperate with them in the undertaking.

Five meetings of one and two days' duration have been held in Denver and Salt Lake City of committeemen appointed by the above three organizations and from their discussions and labors there has emerged one clear-cut fundamental demand and several minor recommendations.

All of the members of the committee were stockmen with many years of experience with the rules and practices of the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. There was unanimity of opinion among the committeemen from the start that there must be a Federal statute defining the right to graze on public land, which statute would form a legal boundary beyond which bureau regulations could not go, and that it should be uniform for all public lands. Forty-five years of experience with the Forest Service and fifteen years with the Grazing Service (now the Bureau of Land Management) has enabled the users of those lands to evaluate the good and bad features of the two methods of administration which are practiced by those two Government bureaus.

Most of the members of the committee were users of public lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management, as well as of lands in the national forests, and collectively they represented an extended and wide experience with the rules of both bureaus as they existed in all of the eleven Western States. With one accord they agreed that the fundamental issue had been properly met by the Act of Congress of June 28, 1934, commonly known as "The Taylor Grazing Act," which sets forth the relationship between public and private lands in Section 3, which reads as follows:

"Preference shall be given in the issuance of grazing permits to those within or near a district, who are landowners engaged in the livestock business, bona fide occupants or settlers or owners of water or water rights, as may be neces-

sary to permit the proper use of lands, water or water rights, owned, occupied or leased by them.

Those statesmanlike words of Congress are in reality a "Magna Carta" for range stockmen rights because they give recognition to what custom and usage have already established. Long before either the forest or grazing district reservations had been established, land owners and settlers had been supplementing their pastures by using public lands. In many cases it was seasonal use only, as in the case of the hay farmer who fed his cattle in winter and turned them out to graze for the summer on nearby public lands, or of sheepmen who followed a pastoral tradition as old as time and trailed their bands out on the desert for winter feed to supplement their summer pastures and thus complete a year-round operation. In other cases early settlers had taken up land and water which were strategically situated so as to control the use of public lands. All this had been done by using the existing land laws. A map of the resulting land pattern looks like a crazy quilt to the uninitiated, but to the western range man it tells the story of a fine adjustment of public to private lands to make possible a year-round operation for breeding cattle and sheep. Almost none of the public pastures by themselves are capable of supporting a year-round livestock operation and conversely the private lands and water now connected by long usage with public land grazing are dependent upon it for an all-season operation.

The criterion for the right to graze on public land is thus seen to inhere in the control of certain private lands or water, and that right when once determined should

remain there subject to transfers agreeable to the owners of the private land or water and the administrators of the public lands.

This great principle of land relationship or proper land use has been the guiding one in distributing the grazing rights on some 140 million acres which first went under regulation in 1934 when the Taylor Grazing Act was passed. It has proved equitable and fair to both the operators and the Government. It is what the range stockman wants Congress to set up as the criterion for grazing privileges on the national forests and any other public lands where grazing is allowed. No longer can a situation be tolerated wherein absolute bureaucratic discretion can be allowed to control, without any canalization by Congress, a matter so vital to the national economy as the use of its millions of acres of public lands.

Western stockmen concede the right of Government to be the final judge in all matters of stocking and use. They believe through the instrumentality of the locally elected advisory boards of permittees which are now provided for on forests by the Granger Bill as well as in grazing districts by the Taylor Act that they can reach an understanding with all Government officials, provided Congress extends the salutary and fair standard of proper land use.

Presidents' Round Table

(Continued from page 18)

very dry. However, throughout the western part the snow has been about right for sheep during most of the month. During the last week of January there has been an excess of snow in some areas.

Our State Board of Equalization has just announced valuations on livestock for 1951 for tax purposes. Bucks used with stock ewes are raised from \$12.00 to \$15.00. On stock sheep, coming yearlings, the valuations have been raised from \$5.00 to \$5.50; on yearlings and over, from \$6.00 to \$7.00, and on ewes over 5 years old from \$4.00 to \$4.50. We consider these increases very reasonable in the light of current sales. However, the formula for fixed valuations in Wyoming is fixed on the actual sale of livestock and prices received by producers during the past year, so the current prices are not reflected in the valuations.

We, in Wyoming, feel that our State Board has given us very good treatment, having arrived several years ago at a fair and workable formula for determining valuations.



"I represent the Women's Club Co-operative Buying Committee. We would like to buy a sheep . . . but first can we have this for a sample?"

Merino Breeders Meet

(Continued from page 28)

exists. However, showing them as we do, mostly on the basis of purebreds, doesn't preclude the possibility that the base can be broadened to show the results which the commercial breeder achieves. Some fair authorities have expressed an interest in the possibility of developing such a program; one which brings the commercial ewe and her production record onto the tanbark.

More and more there is thought being given to adaptation of types and systems of breeding as a fundamental which gives soundness and permanence to commercial activity. Why not exhibit the results of such effort as it is revealed in 95 percent of the sheep business?

Commercial production and especially cross-breeding succeeds because of the good qualities which have been bred into the purebred through generations of selective mating. Why not show the results that can be obtained with the use of purebreds commercially, under the same theme that started fairs and has kept them going?

Right here, an interesting point in connection with sheep production is that practically every breeder group dealing with mutton-type sheep has talked about the advantage of using a ram of their breed on Merino ewes. People have come to think in terms of what one ram can do. If a ram is used in such a crossing program to his full limit fifty Merino ewes will have been employed. People haven't stopped to think that the ram contributes 50 percent to the goodness of the progeny in any mating, and in addition contributes the qualities which make the flock efficient to handle, to feed, to house, to breed promptly, to rustle, and to band together. The question is—what makes success? Nowhere else in the sheep industry are the same utility and flocking qualities found in the same abundance as those which are characteristic of the finewool ewe. The final program for the new showing of commercial results isn't here, but it is on the "menu" as food for thought and as a possible addition to the present showing program.

Mr. J. F. "Jap" Walker, president of the Ohio Sheep Improvement Association, addressed the meeting, using the subject, "Legislation of Interest to the Sheep and Wool Grower." Mr. Paul Getz, secretary of the Ohio Wool Growers Cooperative Association, discussed "The Wool Situation."

Mr. Arthur Jewell, prominent Knox County farmer, Merino sheep breeder, who runs over 600 purebred and grade Merino

sheep on his farm and who, in the meanwhile, finds time to serve as vice president of the First National Bank of Delaware, Ohio, was elected president of the association for 1951. Mr. Paul Aitken of Zanesville, Ohio, continues as vice president. Don Bell will continue to supervise the secretarial work of the association. As the secretary puts it: "Merinos may not be spectacular—for 2000 years they have been dependable; and they are a sound base for a permanent sheep industry."

—D. S. Bell, Secretary

Halogeton Problem

(Continued from page 25)

tive effects of poisoning will cause sheep and cattle to suffer from what appears to be malnutrition, and thousands of animals have been condemned as a result. In addition, a mild case of poisoning often causes abortion in livestock—another hidden economic loss resulting from Halogeton infestation.

Halogeton, since its discovery in 1935 near Wells, Nevada (where it may have arrived in a shipment of grass seed from

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Stockyards

Asia) has spread to Utah, Idaho, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and California. The weed has been found on 25,000 acres of Federal range, and is continuing to spread. In 75 years, its cousin the Russian thistle spread throughout all of western United States and Canada.—A BLM Release

• • • • •

An informal survey of work now in progress by State and Federal agencies in the West indicates that chemical sprays may be the solution for small infestations of Halogeton. In tests at the Idaho Agricultural Experiment Station, esters of 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T weed killers—applied at the rate of 2 pounds acid equivalent per acre in June—have given 100 percent kill. Similar treatments in September have caused the weeds to wilt, the seeds to become misshapen.

But chemical treatments on a large scale—such as those used in the cereal belt for example—are impractical. The cost is high. Present findings demonstrate that even though the chemicals kill the weed one year, they will not prevent its return next year where seed have been distributed, if there is no other competitive soil cover. The treatments would have to be repeated annually to obtain practical control.

The long term hope for control rests on the fact that Halogeton competes poorly with other plants. In Nevada, it has not been able to invade good stands of crested wheat grass. Whether the grass can crowd out the weed in other areas remains to be determined. Even unpalatable cover such as cheat grass is preferable to Halogeton. To replace the poisonous weed with crested wheat grass would return thousands of acres of land to productive range. In one place where this has been tried, productivity was increased forty-four fold.

—An A.R.A., USDA Release

Utah's Convention

(Continued from page 17)

Favored elimination of so-called buck law and extension of hunting season.

Suggested that land owners pool their lands in large blocks and sell hunting permits on such lands as a means of controlling vandalism, etc., of some hunters.

Appreciated cooperation from Fish and Game Commission and solicited their future help in solving mutual problems.

Asked Forest Service and BLM to accord livestock industry their rightful place with respect to game in their program of controlled grazing.

PREDATORY ANIMALS

Endorsed bounty as set up in present law (\$6 on coyotes, \$6 on bobcats, and \$35 on cougars and bobcat pups at no extra cost above the old).

Expressed appreciation of efforts of State Commission of Agriculture, personnel of the Fish and Wildlife Service and personnel of the Fish and Game Department in predatory animal program.

Basic Land Management

(Continued from page 13)

about the commercial worth of that feed, as judged by what comparable feed brings on the open market. In other words, a philosophy of getting about all a collector can collect, without much regard for the ability of the payer to pay.

On the Taylor grazing on the spring and fall range, the philosophy thus far has been exactly the opposite: that of the collector collecting on the basis of what the payer can afford to pay and maintain the properties and enterprises that he is required to maintain in order to be a tenant.

As a result of those two opposing philosophies, the fees are widely apart. In many cases I should imagine that the Taylor grazing fee is no more than a seventh or eighth of the per AUM charge of the Forest Service, depending upon the locality. It was quite a job to try to figure out how to compose those philosophies and those charges, all of a sudden, and we decided that it was humanly impossible.

That's why we provided that, after fixing this basic principle by which the study would have to be guided, a study should then be conducted by Government agencies and a report made back to the Congress or to the proper committees of the Congress, the public-land committees, of the findings and the results. The Congress then would be in a position to take whatever action it saw necessary to fix the final fees, to be uniformly applied on both these sets of Government pastures.

Meanwhile, the proposal puts up the idea that the fee situation should remain in status quo. In other words, that the fee principles that we're operating on under each agency now, and the bases on which those fees are fixed, shall remain in status quo until this problem can be settled.

Improvement of Ranges by Users

In the matter of the improvement angle we have set up an idea that every incentive should be given the user, the tenant, to improve his own ranges or those publicly owned ranges which are allotted to him as a tenant, at his own expense instead of depending upon public appropriations. We think he can more efficiently do it; that he can get more out of each dollar spent; that he's the best judge, of course with the permission of the Government agents, as to where profitable improvements can be put. We also think in the long run there's no hope for the Government to ever appropriate the tremendous sums of money that should be appropriated to improve the

capacity of these ranges to turn out a greater volume of meat on a sustained-yield basis. And we think that if the permittees or the tenants can be given the proper protection and the incentive, and the proper stability in their use, especially when they're in a position to afford it, in good times, they will get the job of building up and improving these ranges done much more quickly than we could hope for under any other system, at much less expense, and at much more profit to themselves.

So we have provided for this incentive on the part of the Secretary, that he should do everything to encourage permittees to do this job. Just as an example, now, and particularly for those who are not so well informed, the Government agencies are making a great to-do about the possibilities of range reseeding, and there's no question, because they have demonstrated it in certain areas, that the job can be done under certain conditions of moisture, soil and warmth. None of us are too sure yet as to whether it's profitable under the cost investment. However, much is made of the fact that the users themselves are not following up these demonstrations as they should. But imagine the incentive that the tenant would have under the picture we have up here, where he has no definite guarantee what will happen to the benefits of his investment. He doesn't know whether, after he got the job done, he would be permitted to go back on it after the feed grew; that it might not be taken entirely away from him, or even given to another tenant, who hadn't spent a dime on the job. He would have no assurance of what he'd be charged for the use of it after he'd put his money into it.

Under our proposal we try to correct that situation by making a provision under which the Secretary, or whoever the administrative official in charge under this improvement plan may be, after encourag-

ing the tenant in every possible way to go out and improve these areas, should provide the means to protect him against loss of the benefits of his investments in these lands, if these areas should be taken away from him.

Personally, I think that is one of the most important factors in this proposed act. If the public of the United States wants the most made out of these soil and water resources in these areas, if they want a maximum of meat production and of other livestock products, at a minimum of cost, and with the best possible husbandry of the range, and a sustained yield, then certainly there should be every encouragement to this tenant, and every protection for him to be a good tenant, and go out and do the best job he can, safe in the knowledge that the outlay of his time and his plans and his financial investments will have some reasonable protection.

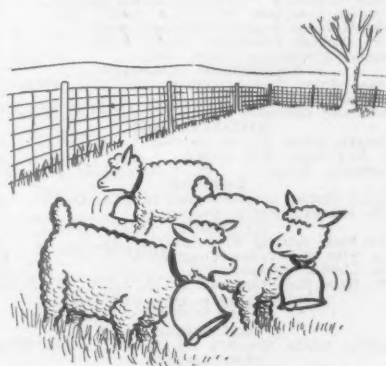
The Landlord's Protection

Finally, after all of these factors are set up, we come to the matter—it came last in our proposal, it should have come first, maybe—of what protection the landlord should have. We looked at the usual landlord-tenant situation and set up principles that have historically proved correct, and said, "Well, there are surely two things that you've got to allow the landlord if he's to have a fair deal." One of them is to change the use of his lands as he sees fit, or to take them out of use and turn them to some other use. Our proposal provides for that—there's no limitation on the landlord to change the use as he sees fit. That's the usual protection given any landlord. An added one is that he shall have the right to protect his lands from injury by poor tenants. That's another fundamental, basic, long-established principle that's usually recognized as fair for the landlord.

However, that means that, despite the other four principles that we've set up to safeguard the tenant, the tenant would still be subject to the contingency that his pastures might be taken from him and put to other uses, or that a malicious landlord agent might come along and reduce his tenancy use on the plea of injury, when no injury actually was being caused. He is subject to those two hazards.

We strove to find some way to help the tenant and give him some protection, on that situation, and the best we have been able to come up with is a proposal as to compensation to the tenant in the case of range improvements. . . .

Now we have the continuity or stability of tenure, the charge, the transferability,



donnie
"I guess the old man is getting hard of hearing!"

the improvement factor. That's the foundation of the proposals we put in here, plus the two, that incident to all this, the landlord is to have a right to change the use of his lands, and the right to protect them against injury by any possible poor tenant, who might still insist upon being a poor tenant, after being given the protection of these five safeguards.

I should like to stress, before I close, one point: We have tried to confine this problem or this approach purely to a settlement of the terms that should apply between the landlord and the tenants, and to which the landlord agents should be restricted in their administration, to cover the livestock-grazing usage part of this problem, and only for so long as these lands shall be allowed to remain available for livestock pasture, and only so long as the tenants shall use them as good tenants and not damage them.

We have left entirely aside other uses; we have not attempted in anyway to monkey with the game problem, or the recreation problem or any other use, and we have specified repeatedly in this proposal that nothing herein contained in the working out of these livestock-usage terms, shall in anyway interfere with other uses, and we think that's good policy to follow.

Some have questioned it; the consensus of the committee, which was a fairly large committee and representative of all these Western States, was that we should settle our livestock-grazing usage problem in this case and not complicate it by trying to get into the multiple-use argument.

Now, I don't want you to get the assumption that the members of the committee think we're infallible or that we have done the job exactly right. Our purpose in having this opportunity to come to you is to tell you how we've done it and to have our chance to explain why we did it that way, and then to give you people at the grass roots, who have your money in the business, your chance to say whether we're on the right track in trying to do this for you; whether we should continue down the alley we have chosen to perfect a plan, or whether we should get the red light instead of the green light, and stop and take some other approach. If we're to have the green light, probably you have some suggestions on something we should have covered that we didn't cover.

With no thought of personal criticism toward any of the landlord agent group and with a high personal regard for all of them as individual citizens, it still looks as if it must be admitted and recognized that the interests of tenants, and especially tenants

such as here concerned, the landlord agents, also such as here concerned, scarcely can be expected to be the same.

Naturally, human nature being what it is, the landlord agent group's desires in the final analysis, can be expected to be for an ever-increasing expansion of their jurisdiction over the tenant group's interests, resulting in more and more agents, larger and larger agent groups with more and more power to secure greater and greater appropriations from Congress and with seldom a stop to the ascending spiral.

On the other hand, and also naturally, it must be recognized as but human for the tenant group to want a minimum of restraint and exercise of power on the part of the landlord agent group. Somewhere between these two attitudes is probably where the best interests of most all concerned and particularly the public in general lie.

But, after all and again, human nature being what it is, it is hardly to be expected that the landlord agent groups will regard with any particular enthusiasm any proposal which in any important particular promises to place any real curbs on their present powers over the tenant group.

Actually, of course, there is nothing in the proposal which would in any way hamper the existing powers of the landlord agents to at once stop injury to the landlord's property by those occasional tenants, usually present in any large group, who, even with the added incentives of the safeguards proposed, still might insist upon being poor tenants. All that really is being proposed is that those tenants who prefer, want to and will be good tenants, be given, for as long as the Government range pasture parts remain available to them, some definite protection by the landlord in those few basic tenancy terms which, historically, in at least every enlightened country of our world, long have been found essential if there is to be any real chance for really desirable results from the use of agricultural lands by tenants and especially in cases where, as here, the drawbacks of absentee landlordism and the chances for unchecked domination of both the landlord's and the tenants' interests by the landlord agents are so pronounced.

The proposal represents the first time in the long history of conflict over Government range regulation in the public land States that the tenants have attacked their problem by joining in working out a proposed set of landlord-tenant terms for the wide-stretched western range regions as a whole on an over-all comprehensive basis.

It looks as if the effort may have come none too soon, confronted as the tenant group now is by the threat of a consolidation of the two existing Government range regulation agencies under that particular one which so long has been and still seems so thoroughly wedded to a philosophy of unlimited power in the hands of the landlord agent group to force their day-to-day will upon the range pasture tenant group and their enterprises in general, with nothing whatever in the way of definite assurances by the landlord for at least its good tenants, to protect them and their required investments and the local communities dependent thereupon from the very whims of the agent group.

In conclusion, it seems reasonable to say, if the effort should fail and the proposed agency merger go through as matters stand, leaving the tenants with no more protection against the landlord agent group than now, that the failure easily could mark the beginning of an end to any real chance for the foreseeable future of preserving anything resembling free enterprise in the range and stock raising industry of the public land States and, as a result, one more long step down the road toward national socialism for the industries, as a whole, of our entire country.

ADVERTISERS' INDEX COMMERCIAL

BAGS	
Mente and Company, Inc.	31
CAMP WAGONS	
Wm. E. Madsen and Sons	42
CLOTHING	
Pendleton Woolen Mills	37
DOGS	
Peterson's Stock Farm	37
Sheep Dog Directory	38
EAR TAGS	
Salt Lake Stamp Company	38
EQUIPMENT	
Colorado Fuel & Iron Corporation	3
Farm Equipment Distributors	2nd cover
George Edwards (Womb supporter and coyote scent)	37
McMurtry Manufacturing Company	37
FEEDS	
Moorman Manufacturing Company	27
Morris Feed Yards	39
Stansbury Salt Company, Inc.	1
FINANCE	
Arizona Livestock Production Credit Assn.	2
California Livestock Production Credit Assn.	2
Montana Livestock Production Credit Assn.	2
Nevada Livestock Production Credit Assn.	2
Northwest Livestock Production Credit Assn.	2
Southern Idaho Production Credit Assn.	2
Utah Livestock Production Credit Assn.	2
Wyoming Production Credit Assn.	2
MARKETING AGENCIES	
Chicago Union Stock Yards Co.	4th cover
Swift and Company	33
Wilson and Company	35
MISCELLANEOUS	
Mountain States Tel. & Tel. Co.	36
Mrs. Neil Imes (Wax lambs)	40
Sheepmen's Books	2
REMEDIES	
National Serums and Livestock Supplies Co.	42
O. M. Franklin Serum Company	1
WOOL	
Idaho Falls Animal Products Co.	42
Idaho Hide and Tallow Company	37
R. H. Lindsay Company	38
B. F. Ware Hide Company	38
SHEEP	
COLUMBIAS	
Columbia Sheep Breeders Association	38
CORRIEDALES	
American Corriedale Association	3
Bonvue Ranch	38
MISCELLANEOUS	
Breeders' Directory	3rd cover
SUFFOLKS	
American Suffolk Sheep Society	37

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